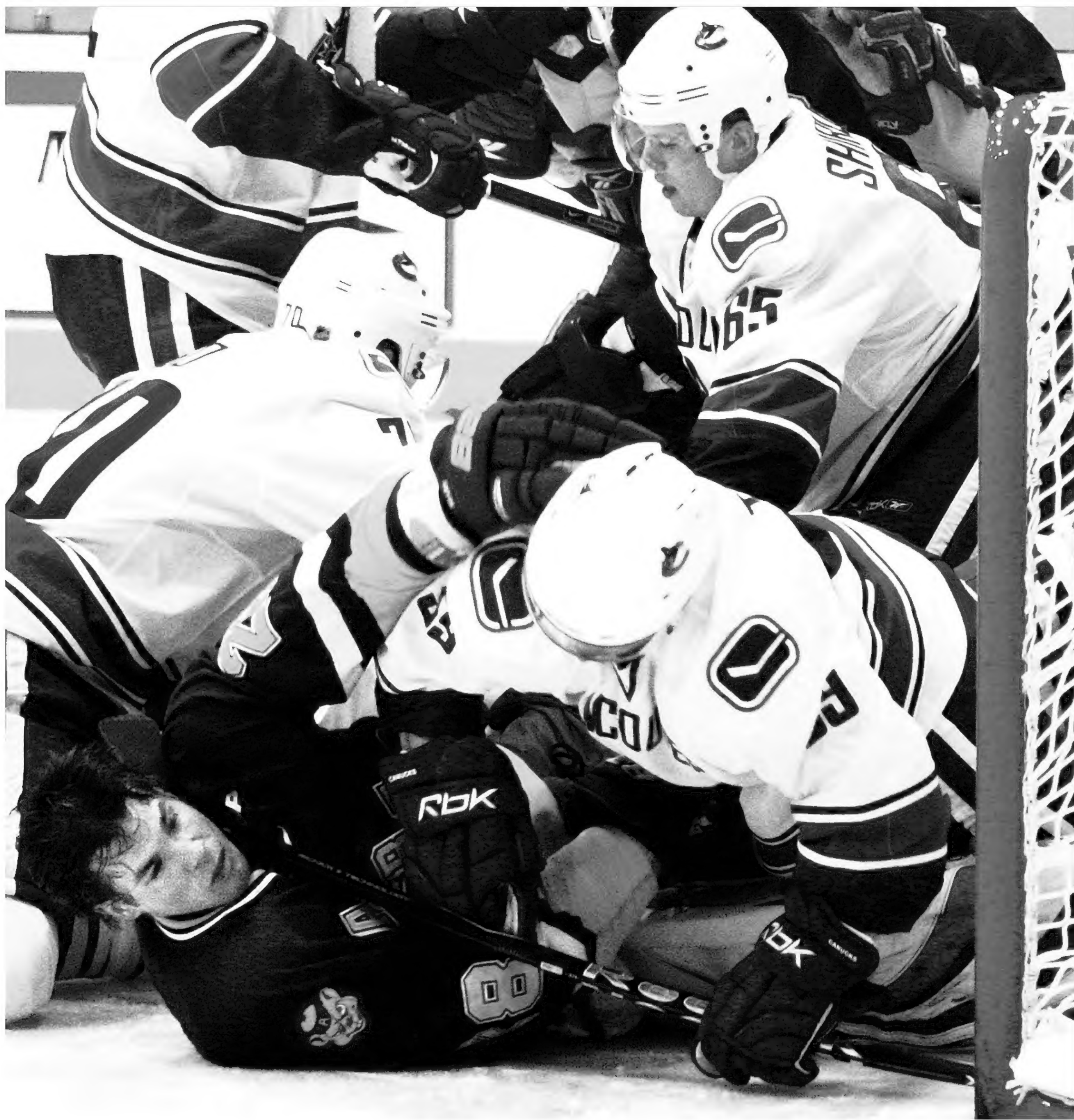


# THE GATEWAY

volume C number 4 ♦ the official student newspaper at the university of alberta ♦ www.thegatewayonline.ca ♦ thursday, september 10, 2009



TYLER HEAL

**CRUSHING DEFEAT** The U of A Golden Bears fell 4-3 to the Vancouver Canuck rookies Wednesday night. See Sports, page 22

## World's leading gene experts will debate future, ethics of field

SEAN STEELS  
Senior News Editor

From September 16–18, Banff, Alberta will become a brimming nucleus of bio-ethical debate as the fifth-annual Age of Personalized Genomics Conference (APGC) descends on the small mountain town.

To those unversed in genetic research, Banff might seem like a strange place for the world's leading geneticists, ethicists, and scientists-at-large to converge, but according to Professor Timothy Caulfield, Research Director of the Health Law Institute at the University of Alberta and Canada Research Chair in Health Law and Policy, the area has been full of those conducting just that type of research for some time.

"Over the past four or five years, we've actually had a major research project in the area looking at the social and legal implications of genetics generally," Caulfield said.

"And I'd say that within that same time frame, there's been a real emphasis as the capability of sequencing technologies increase, scientists have been able to sequence entire genomes."

Welcome to the age of personalized genetics: a time when the cost of sequencing human genomes has plummeted from billions to hundreds of dollars per gene. The conference, labelled by Caulfield as a true "interdisciplinary event" will be open to students and professors alike. The field is so budding that its scientific discipline, it seems, hasn't quite been identified yet.

But a universal concern among scientists across the various disciplines associated with the future of genetics is the potential for abuse of the viable technologies about to be unlocked.

"Companies are now emerging around the world. 23andMe, which is affiliated with Google, is down in California offering what they call personal genomics or personal genetics where you can test your genomes to find out what you may or may not be susceptible to."

Such advances have brought the technology within reach of everyday people, and as such, Caulfield and fellow researchers sought the opinions of Albertans in a survey on genetic developments.

"Albertans, actually, were quite sophisticated in their response. If the genetic information would tell them something useful about their health care, they would perhaps pay for it and pay in significant amounts," he said.

But one thing Albertans didn't go



PETE YEE

**WAITING FOR CHANGE** Caulfield thinks that events like the APGC will help establish the future of genetics.

for was too much personal luxury. Trivial health concerns like baldness didn't arise very often, and more curious to Caulfield was their lack of curiosity.

"They weren't that interested in finding out about things that we're susceptible to that you can't cure. So they don't want to find out something for curiosity's sake, they want to find out something that will help them," he explained.

An even more critical reason to be initiating scientific debate at this juncture in history, Caulfield explained, is the abuses that could lead from the temptation of near-miraculous medical fixes.

The hypothetical list of benefits from genetic research makes it obvious why such research is so fixable in the public conscience.

"We're now unlocking knowledge like understanding the mechanics of cancer, for example, and that's just one example. There's also the hope we'll be able to tailor drug delivery to meet peoples genomes."

But despite all the concern over genetics, some are still skeptical about the vast impact the new technology will have on society. Expecting miracle cures from the switch of a genome, clients might be disappointed to find nothing more than another doctor with sage advice.

"The hope is that in the future people will be able to use this information to take preventative steps. They'll be able to find out if they're susceptible to heart disease. I'm skeptical because I'm not sure people would react on the information we present them," he laughed.

"People still smoke, people still eat bad food even though they know they're not supposed to. I'm not sure that things will change just because our scientific information is genetic."

## Copyright law up for city-wide discussion

Event gave the federal government a chance to hear Edmonton's concerns

SIMON YACKULIC  
News Staff

Before the Governor General dissolved Parliament last year, a much-maligned bill C-61 — the Act to Amend the Copyright Act — was to make its way through the House of Commons and update Canadian copyright legislation. That bill died with the 39th Parliament. Before resurrecting the intent of the controversial bill, however, the government has set out to consult with Canadians and hear any possible concerns that the bill may raise.

The Government Round Table in Edmonton was held August 21 at the Canada Place Conference Center. The attendees ranged from U of A's Vice Provost Ernie Ingles and SU advocacy director Chris Henderson, to Jane Bisbee of the Alberta Motion Picture Industries Association.

Only individuals who had received express invitations from the government were allowed to attend, but transcripts were posted online for the public after the roundtable was complete.

On Thursday, September 3 in the U of A's Humanities building, the Edmonton chapter of Fair Copyright for Canada along with APIRG invited members of the public to meet and discuss copyright reform under the Facebook tagline "Weren't they going to ask us?"

**"What comes back is just 'mumble mumble,' 'police state. That's an example of how the issue can spiral out of control until it is difficult to discuss it."**

DAVE BALLANTYNE  
MEMBER, FAIR COPYRIGHT FOR CANADA

As implied by this, a number of attendees felt shut out of the government's process that — despite allowing individual Canadians to submit their thoughts online — limited an

average interested citizen's in-person participation to town hall meetings in Montreal and Toronto.

"So there are these people polluting a lake," David Ballantyne explained, creating an analogy. "So we need to figure out how we're regulating polluting the lake. So let's bring all the people who are polluting the lake, and then ask them to get together to make the rules for polluting the lake."

Ballantyne, a member of Fair Copyright for Canada, moderated the Edmonton Citizens' Copyright Roundtable. he mentioned that discussions over copyright reform often lead to heated and opposing positions: one side wanting society to do as much as it takes until copyright is soundly and universally protected, the other side believing that such absolute protection will unnecessarily erode precious civil liberties.

"What comes back is just 'mumble mumble,' 'police state,'" Ballantyne joked. "That's an example of how the issue can spiral out of control until it is difficult to discuss it."

PLEASE SEE **COPYRIGHT** ♦ PAGE 5

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## Improved faculty

We introduced the SU last Thursday. This week, we move up the food chain and explain how it works at the top.

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## Improv facilities

The Die-Nasty crew are heading back to school for their 50-hour marathon, and they've got our SU President.

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## colophon

The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers, HP Scanjet flatbed scanners, and a Nikon Super Cool Scan optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of **FENICE**, **Joanna**, **Kepler** and **Whitney**. The *Manitoban* is the Gateway's sister paper, and we love her dearly, though "not in that way." The Gateway's games of choice are Super Smash Bros. and *Fallout 3*.

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## Researchers probe human mind to unlock A.I.

The technology to make a true artificial intelligence is still years off, but potential uses are approaching

**SEAN STEELS**  
Senior News Editor

A new study out of the University of Alberta that maps the perception of adults within computer simulations and in real-life scenarios has taken a step towards plotting human hiding and searching patterns that could one day open the door for computer programs to do their own searching.

The study, run by Dr. Marcia Spetch of the Department of Psychology and Dr. Vadim Bulitko of the Department of Computing Science formed a unique inter-faculty partnership that was necessary to unlock the science behind how the average adult human perceives their surroundings and decides where the best place to begin a search or to hide an object was.

The study originated as a class project by Eric Legge and Matt Brown, an honours and graduate student, respectively, working under Spetch in the Department of Psychology, but quickly expanded to include Bulitko after they realized a thing or two about computing data.

"The amount of data we would have had to track would be extraordinary," Spetch said.

Luckily, Bulitko was able to contact Steve Hadliky, a masters' student working in the Department of Computing Science, who was able to program the recording interface that would capture the movements of research participants as they moved through a simulation built using the source engine from the popular video game *Half-Life 2*.

The results of the study measured variables such as distance travelled from starting location, and dispersion of hiding places to try and assemble a clear pattern of human thought that went into choosing these locations.

Unfortunately, the sample size of only 90 participants was too low of a number to properly formulate any coherent strategy behind the human thought that goes into such clandestine pursuits, but in October, the study will be repeated with another 200 participants, hopefully adding enough to the data to draw more conclusions, Spetch added.

Spetch and Bulitko both admit that the results of the study might not blow open any doors in the field of cognition and perception tomorrow, but both have hopes for the long term applications of such a project.

"We know that humans don't search randomly. We know experience effects how far they go into a room along with factors like dispersion — how clustered the searching places are. Intelligent searching is based on factors, not chance," Bulitko said.

"There have been several attempts to replicate human behaviour. For instance, in first-person shooter games, the task in those is not necessarily to have the [computer-controlled] bots possess the same behaviour pattern as humans, but to emulate them. In other words, humans can still, over time, learn to tell the difference between the imitator bots and human players."

Bulitko further clarified that when game designers assemble games, their true concern is to provide fun and



SAM BROOKS

**HUMAN CALCULATOR** Bulitko's data mining made the experiment possible.

interesting interaction with the human participant. If this is done by secretly revealing the location of a hidden item, or presenting the computer with an environmental variable that would be impossible to know without cheating and disguise it with something like a "wandering program," they can fairly accurately create the impression that the artificial intelligence or bot of a game is moving through an environment like a human.

"But we're interested in actually finding out how humans do it," he said.

But even once the new technology has been mastered, there could be potential applications for it outside the video gaming world. In the future, Bulitko pointed out, if computational

scientists can predict the pattern behind human reasoning while hiding or seeking objects, they could potentially build software that could permit individuals, such as those involved with law enforcement, to predict where illicit items might be stashed at a crime scene.

Despite the tantalizing lure of futuristic fantasy, Bulitko still believes, however, that the study could have the most significant effects on the video game industry by providing true perception.

"The most immediate benefit to this kind of study would probably be video game advancements. It could help designers learn how to better place objects and hid things to improve the gaming experience," he concluded.

## STREETERS

Compiled and photographed by  
Jon Taves and Sam BrooksAs you may be aware an Edmonton motorcyclist received two speeding tickets in under ten minutes.  
**When was the last time you didn't learn your lesson?****Michelle Sabourin**  
Education post-degree**Alyssa Lefavre**  
Arts IV**Alex Smith**  
Science III**Mathew Hebert**  
Science I

I had enough tickets in one summer to have my license suspended. That's a lot of demerits gone in one summer.

I just skipped a class and it's the third day of school, so for my first two years, I didn't learn anything.

This weekend my car overheated when I didn't check the oil when the "check engine" light came on. That's happened before.

Having a Febreze fight with my friend, and then starting it again after losing. The first time, he had two cans and I had one. We were covered in wet Febreze. I was like, "Let's not do this." Five minutes later I had two cans of Tag, he still had two of Febreze ready to go. My mom comes in and says, "It smells nice in here."





# Tech community shows off promising developments at eighth DemoCamp

JONATHAN TAVES  
Deputy News Editor

Investors and developers gathered once again in the Engineering Teaching and Learning Centre last night to show off and learn about new projects in Edmonton's technology community.

The meeting, called DemoCamp, is the eighth local installment of its kind, based on an idea first started in Silicon Valley in 2005 where user-generated conferences allowed developers in early stages of web applications and open source technology to share their innovations. The original conference, called BarCamp, has expanded greatly and is now held annually in hundreds of cities across the world, including in Edmonton. DemoCamp is a smaller, less formal version that occurs more frequently.

"DemoCamp is a chance for people in Edmonton's tech and start-up community to be able to see what each other are working on and be able to interact and get to know each other," said Cam Linke, an organizer of the events.

"We get people working on start-ups to come out, and they get ten minutes to show off what they're doing. There's a little time for questions afterwards. After those companies are demoed, we head over to a bar — in this case we're going to the RATT to grab a few beers and chat with people doing similar things."

As the name suggests, participants are required to demonstrate their

projects in action — no PowerPoint presentations allowed.

"For the most part it's software. Software tends to be the easiest to demo, as it's easier to show off a web app than it is to show off a chemical reaction," Linke said. "In the past we have had a few more hardware-type things. We've had someone who hacked together a violin out of Rock Band components."

**"DemoCamp is a really a great forum for sharing ideas. A knowledge economy is all about thinking outside the box."**

SHAWN ABBOTT  
VENTURE CAPITALIST

The events are largely about networking, which is an essential part of a business where an idea can't take off without money to back it up.

"The big thing is financing. Start-ups, anything like that, they tend to be about relationships," Linke said. "For us, the big thing is trying to create that community and develop those types of relationships. People can meet each other regardless of what stage their company or project is at, then later on when they're looking for funding that type of relationship has already

been built."

Shawn Abbott was one of the people in attendance looking for investment opportunities in the new ideas. He's a partner at iNovia Capital, an investment firm which manages an over \$100-million venture capitalist (VC) fund.

"We try to be active in the local community. It's unlikely that a company presenting here would be investment-ready for a VC fund, but we typically track companies for a year or more before we make an investment," he said.

He expressed his belief that events such as DemoCamp help investors foster the types of qualities needed to succeed in the industry.

"You want to back a business where they have a really solid barrier to [other competitors'] entry," he explained. "I look for great entrepreneurs going after a \$100-million opportunity with an unfair competitive advantage [...] Maybe they have a unique technology, maybe they have unique market insight."

"[DemoCamp] is a really great forum for sharing ideas. A knowledge economy is all about thinking outside the box," Abbott added.

Among the presentations at last night's event was a device similar to a joystick used to allow victims of spinal cord injury, stroke, or brain trauma to do rehabilitation over the Internet, and an iPhone application used for planning public transit trips.



**SHOW AND TELL** Tech developers use events like DemoCamp to gain exposure and help find for funding their work.

## CAMPUS DIGEST

Compiled by Sean Steels

### GFC AND SU BY-ELECTION PREPARATION NEARING END

A by-election will be held on September 24-25 by the Students' Union (SU) to fill vacant positions in both their own council and the General Faculties Council (GFC) Election to either position offers students the chance to represent their faculty in the student government process.

Nomination packages can be picked up from SUB 2-900, SUB 302K or downloaded from the SU's website at [www.su.ualberta.ca/student\\_government/elections](http://www.su.ualberta.ca/student_government/elections).

Seats that need to be filled in the election are Arts, Business, Education, Engineering, Nursing, Open Studies, Physical Education and Recreation, Fac

Saint-Jean, and Science. Nomination packages must be submitted to the SU's office in SUB 2-900 by September 14 at 5 p.m.

### SUMMIT SERIES PREMIERS AT VAN VLIET

The first lecture in a series focused on a variety of topics related to the more rocky regions of our globe is set to debut at 3:30 p.m. in room E-120 of the Van Vliet Centre on September 10. The Summit Series will provide an interdisciplinary look at a combination of themes from mountaineering, mountain business practices, Native issues, and even the various cultures associated with mountainous areas.

Dianne Chisholm, a professor with the University of Alberta's Department of English and Film Studies, will begin the lecture with a look at literary ecology. Also featured at the event is professor Jeff Kavanaugh with the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences to speak on the movement of glaciers, and professor Alistair Hodges,

who will discuss the various stresses and effects alpine geography, cold, and high elevation can have on human bodies.

The lectures are part of a larger initiative dubbed the Mountain Studies Initiative, which hopes to promote more symbiotic man-nature relationships within mountain ranges.

### ARAMARK INTRODUCES TIME SAVING IPHONE APPLICATION

The release of iUAlberta, will soon help students complete their daily chores list a little bit faster. The application can be downloaded to a student's iPhone free of charge.

The application, funded by Aramark, will allow students to view campus maps, visit the University's website, view Pandas and Golden Bears sporting schedule, or view a list of campus eateries.

For more information on the application, email Jeff Marcellus, general manager of Aramark at the U of A at [jeff.marcellus@fo.ualberta.ca](mailto:jeff.marcellus@fo.ualberta.ca).

# DEWEY'S

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Top 4 Names Win

- ★ \$50 Room at the Top gift certificate



# U of A researchers hounded by wolves at Nunavut camp

**JONATHAN TAVES**  
Deputy News Editor

"It was my third year up there, and each year seems to be an adventure. My first year we were actually in a helicopter crash; my second year, I was charged by a muskox; and then this year with the wolves. I think I'm done with the Arctic for a while," he laughed.



**PAGEMASTER** Robert Richardson will be making a 52-page comic with DC Comics.

# ART. CENTRAL.

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A black and white map of downtown Edmonton, Alberta, centered on the area around 103rd Avenue and 102nd Street. The map shows a grid of streets with various buildings and landmarks labeled. Key locations include the Greyhound Bus Terminal, Spring Hotel, YMC Enterprise Centre, Boardwalk Market, Co-op Edmonton House, Western Union Building, Enterprise Square, and the Alberta Place Hotel. A compass rose indicates North (N), South (S), East (E), and West (W). The map also shows the location of the City Centre, Bay/Enterprise Square, and the Canadian Western Bank Place. The map is framed by a thick black border.



## COUNCIL FORUM

Written by Sean Steels

Students' Council meets every second Tuesday in the Council Chambers in University Hall at 6 p.m. Council meetings are open to all students. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 15, where free food will be provided for all attendees.

Recently, Council has presented its usual spread of veggies, fruits, wraps and cookies. How could you resist such a feast? So if you're at all interested in student politics, swing by, fill your belly, and get your democracy on.

### NEW SYSTEM WOULD PROVIDE EMOTIONAL AID TO DEPRESSED

Councillors received a presentation entitled "Helping individuals at Risk: Connecting the Dots" from Shannon O' Byrne of the Faculty of Law and Brad Hamdon from General Counsel. In the presentation, Hamdon and O'Byrne outlined potential policy and procedure for identifying and providing counseling assistance to students that find themselves in emotional stress that could endanger themselves or others.

The program would consist of a risk case team and coordinator who would evaluate tips received from students identifying suspicious or out-of-character behaviour in their peers. The purpose of the program would not be to deal with immediate risk scenarios, such as school shootings, but to provide students in emotional distress aid before possibly hurting themselves or others.

“Thank you for blowing my mind four times.

VIKRAM SETH  
Arts Councillor

—after hearing Vice-Provost Schaeffer's presentation on I.T. reform

Vice President (External) Beverly Eastham expressed concern over the rights of students to know whether files exist on them. Files would be kept confidential and on file for a four-year period, as is standard with U of A files.

Also of concern to councillors were the repercussions of falsely reporting individuals to the program. Hamdon insisted that there would be penalties put in place for those who make claims deemed "frivolous" or of a malicious nature.

### SCHAEFFER GAUGES STUDENT SUPPORT FOR I.T. OVERHAUL

Vice Provost (Information Technology) Jonathan Schaeffer made a presentation to council outlining upcoming changes to the University's I.T. landscape, which will soon, if he has his way, be upended by the introduction of "utility computing."

The term refers to what Schaeffer described as the consolidation and outsourcing of web resources to save infrastructure and money by taking advantage of the professional web services offered by providers such as Google.

This council presentation was a bit a prologue for Schaeffer, who will be meeting with the University President

“I'm sorry for being a talkasaurus, but thank you for the questions.

LEAH TRUEBLOOD  
Vice President (Academic)

—after receiving numerous questions about the SSA's de-recognition

and executives on October 1 to further establish a mandate for I.T. reform. Schaeffer informed councillors that his presentation was to gauge student interest in the concept before approaching administration.

Schaeffer began by telling council the possible benefits of eliminating the 30 different and independent email systems currently being used on campus in favour of a single system, Gmail, provided by Google.

He showed that by eliminating the many email services being used, finances as well as the consequently available computer infrastructure could be increased and repurposed to accommodate other I.T. investments. And for those worried about too much money and spare equipment floating around campus, Schaeffer provided a solution to the excess in the form of a potential student portal for all students and staff.

A student portal is a single, customizable home page on which students would be able to coordinate all course information, and personal and university information. The service would provide access to email, Beartracks, WebCT, Moodle, the library, student groups, and clubs, and would also allow students to post whatever personal content in customizable boxes or elements. Outsourcing of the service. Outsourcing to Gmail would save the U of A money and resources.

### QUESTION PERIOD

VP (Student Life) Nick Dehod fielded a question about why an effort hadn't been made by Students' Council to inform students about the new Health and Dental plan over the summer months. Dehod responded by saying that the decision was made to avoid delivering the message when students would forget about it.

He also pointed out that since the school year had started, pamphlets, booths in quad during Week of Welcome, the new H & D plan office, and banners in SUB had been used to inform students.

Derecognition of the Science Students' Association was a popular topic and kept VP (Academic) Leah Trueblood busy defending her decision to dissolve the Association last week. She insisted the choice was "the only responsible thing for constituents" considering the terms set out by the SSA's probation agreement with former Vice President (Academic) John Braga.

Trueblood identified the SSA's failure to deliver the bi-weekly presentations on their financial status, progress as an association, and policy changes. Essentially, Trueblood chalked the dissolution up to a failure of communication.

SU President Kory Mathewson was questioned in relation to the publication of recent "big five" articles in the media, and his progress communicating with the SU Presidents of other institutions to formulate a unified SU voice between the universities of Alberta, British Columbia, McGill, Montreal, and Toronto.

Mathewson said that he had received no interest from the presidents of other "big five" institutions and that a possible avenue might be for the U of A Students' Union to assemble a proposal and achieve a collective student voice.

Vice President (Operations & Finance) Zach Fentiman fielded the night's more convivial content when fellow councillors' concerns over contest regulations in the "Brand X" beer naming contest arose. To clear up any concerns, Fentiman informed councillors that any individual entering the contest can submit as many entries as they like, although only a single entry per applicant will be accepted into the contest's final four.

He also said that in the case of multiple applicants entering the same name and winning the contest, a winner would be selected at random from the group to receive credit and prizes for the contest.

### P-P-P-PUSH IT

Board of Governors representative Steven Dollansky convinced other councillors to support Bill 8, carried in its first reading, after contentious debate. Bill 8 would modify the collection of dedicated funding units (DFU) — essentially an SU sanctioned addition to students' tuition to sponsor a student organization or entity deemed of value to the student body — from students.

The reform would ensure that any organization requesting a DFU of the student body would have to present an unconditional, online opt-out for students, and that the fee be put back to a referendum every five years.

Organizations with existing DFUs will be grandfathered, but will be subject to the opt-out and referendum requirements should they seek to modify the amount of their DFU.

### ALL IN THE FAMILY

The Students' Union increased its representation on the Gateway Student Journalism Society's (GSJS) Board of Directors.

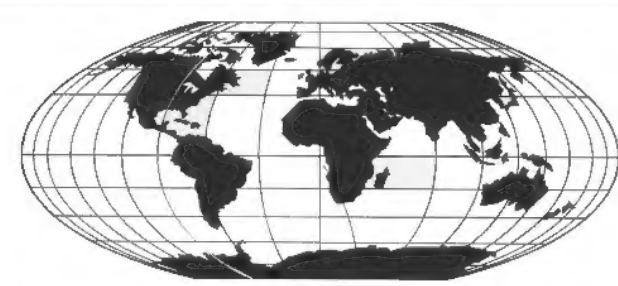
The Gateway welcomes Vikram Seth to the Board. As the second SU representative on the Board of Directors in addition to Vice President (Operations & Finance) Zach Fentiman, Seth will serve as a liaison between the two groups.

Although the Gateway achieved autonomy from the SU in 2002, they remain the Gateway's most prominent business partner. As such, members of the SU sit on the board to represent SU business interests whenever the Board of Directors convenes.

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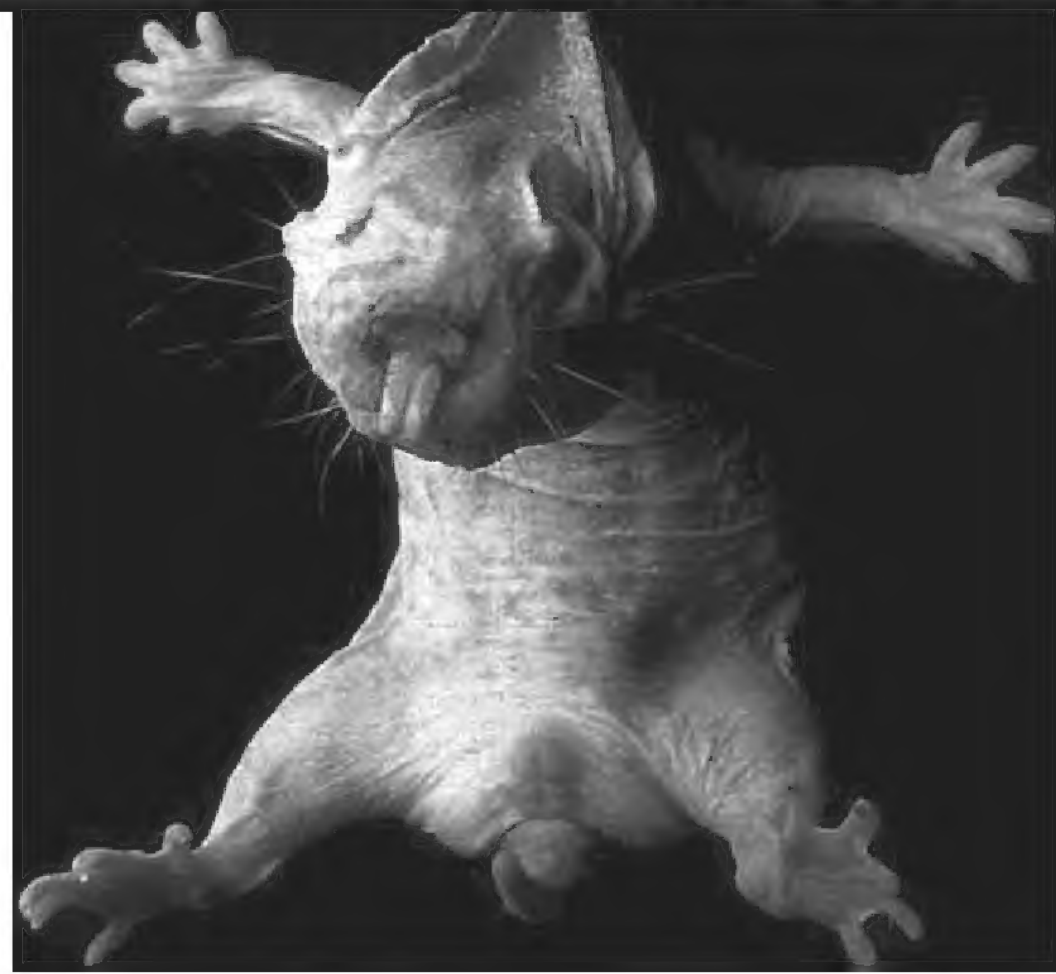
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## Government roundtable closed to public

COPYRIGHT ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The round table covered the special role of libraries, the role of copyright protection in encouraging creativity, copyrights' duration, as well as whether copyrights better serve the interests of artists or their publishers.

Noting the unique challenge of

enforcing copyright protection in the digital age, one participant elaborated that "everything digital is composed of bits. They exist to be copied. Trying to make them uncopyable is like trying to make water not wet."

While the discussion covered various perspectives on the possible

directions future Canadian copyright legislation could take, the participants at the Citizens' Round Table seemed to generally agree on this point: to outright prevent and deter the sharing of files over the Internet, the Canadian Government would be forced to resort to undemocratic measures.



# Facebook upgrades privacy rules

Change follows students' complaints to Canadian privacy commissioner

EMMA GODMERE  
CUP Ottawa Bureau Chief

OTTAWA (CUP) — Millions of social media users around the world can now expect to be better protected when it comes to posting personal information online as Facebook announced it will spend the next year concentrating on improving its privacy protection for users.

Canadian Privacy Commissioner Jennifer Stoddart announced the new effort on August 27. This will include clarifying the difference between deactivating and deleting profiles, and preventing third parties from obtaining personal information for applications without user consent.

It was Harvey Finkelstein, a University of Ottawa alumnus, who first brought the privacy issues to the attention of the Office of the Privacy Commissioner last year.

The former law student began researching social media sites' compliance with Canadian privacy laws with fellow law student Jordan Plener in January 2008. Their official complaint was filed with the Office of the Privacy Commissioner in May 2008, while both were working at the University of Ottawa's Canadian Internet Policy and Public Interest Clinic.

"I guess the catalyst for it was that at the time there [were] about 8 million Canadian users on Facebook — now there [are] about 12 million," Finkelstein said. "So you're talking [...] now it's one in three Canadians that are on [Facebook]. It was just so blatantly obvious that Canadians had a very high propensity to use these sites.

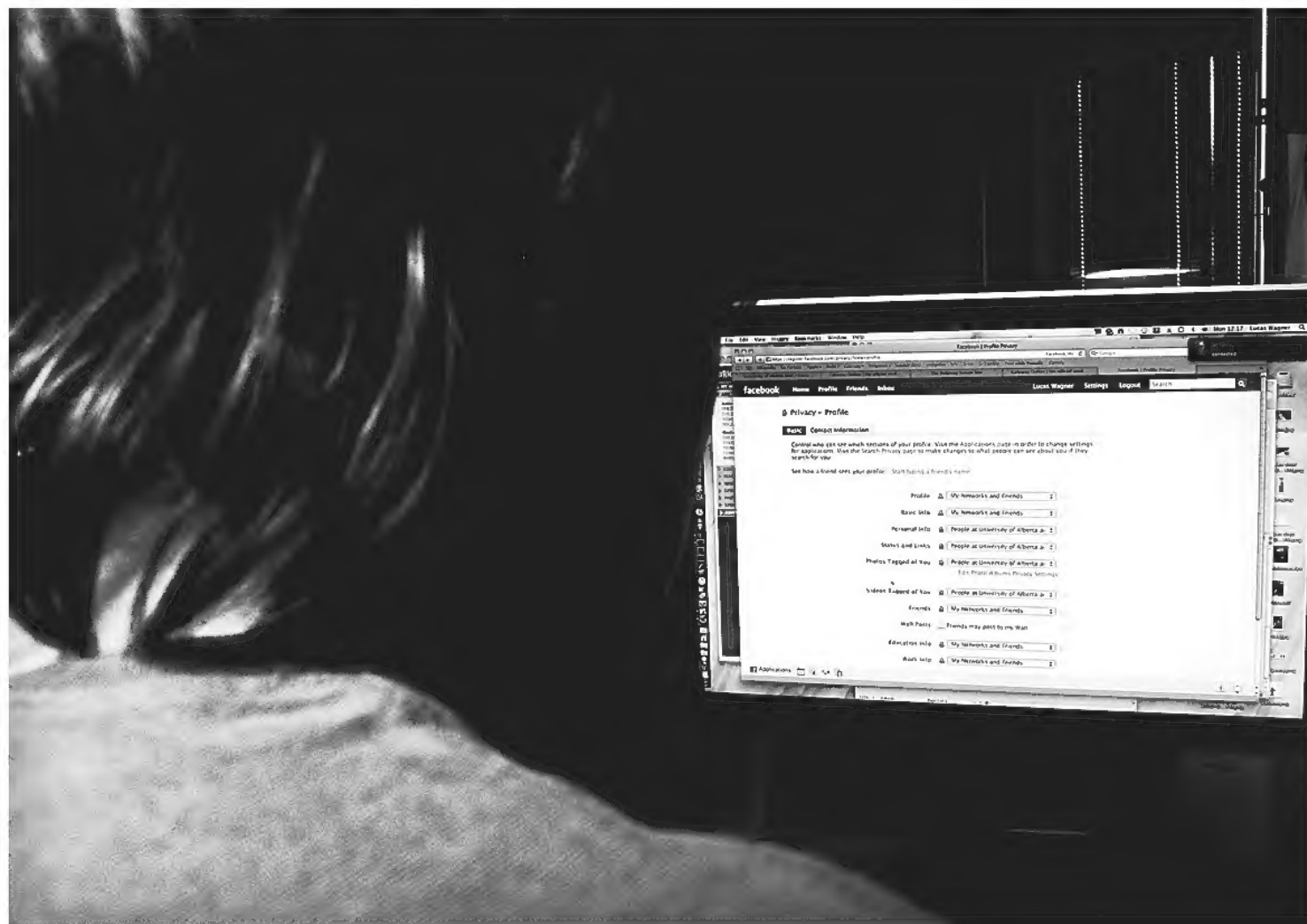


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: PETE YEE

**LOGGING ON** This student's grades may not be safe, but his personal info is.

It was interesting to evaluate whether these companies that aren't necessarily Canadian companies were complying with rather technical and fairly contemporary Canadian privacy law."

The Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA) was passed in 2000 in an effort to clarify how companies can collect and use Canadians' personal information.

According to the act, information cannot be collected from an individual without their express consent or without purpose.

Finkelstein received a response from the Office of the Privacy Commissioner this past July, which stated that many of Facebook's practices were in violation of PIPEDA.

Finkelstein pointed that being a student while doing research into one of a popular social networking sites

offered a certain advantage.

"I still don't know if the privacy commissioner even has a Facebook account herself," he joked. "However, Jordan and I, being in our mid-twenties, we're in that vantage of [being] social networking users [...] who better to launch a complaint than us, who are actually the ones using the platform?"

Finkelstein was also quick to note that Facebook was not intended to be the sole target of the investigation, and that many new social media sites will take some time getting used to working with Canadian laws.

"I don't think they ever wanted to contravene our privacy legislation; they simply were a new site," he said. "I just don't think these types of platforms ever contemplated the huge privacy implications that they would eventually see."

# Mount Royal University comes into existence

ALEXANDRIA ELDRIDGE  
CUP Alberta and Northern Bureau Chief

EDMONTON (CUP) — Calgary's Mount Royal College became Mount Royal University last week, in a move that the school's president said better reflects the nature of the institution.

The name change took place at a ceremony on September 3 in Calgary, and was attended by Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach and Lieutenant Governor Norman L. Kwong, as well as Doug Horner, the provincial Minister of Advanced Technology and Education.

Dave Marshall, President of the newly minted university, commented that the transformation was not a swift process.

"The change of the name really doesn't mean anything other than the fact that it is an affirmation of what Mount Royal is today. And Mount Royal has transformed over the past half a decade into a full undergraduate university," Marshall said.

Marshall did state that the technical name change would prove important for students when they leave the University.

"Now when they leave with these credentials there's absolutely no question about the nature of their credential, or no question about the nature of the institution from which the credential has come."

Marshall also stated that increased access to university degrees would be a benefit for students and for the province.

"There's no city in the world the size

of Calgary with only one public university. So now we have two, [which has been] long overdue, and certainly critical in helping to solve the access problem to university credentials in Alberta," said Marshall.

Mount Royal will offer seven baccalaureate degrees with 30 majors or concentrations, as well as applied degree, diploma, and certificate programs. Marshall also stated that a Bachelor of Education degree will be implemented soon and several other degrees could be added.

Marshall also spoke about the strengths of Mount Royal University and what makes it an attractive choice for students.

"I think Mount Royal's uniqueness rests with its faculty. They are outstanding, they care about students, they like teaching, and they love sharing their scholarship and their research with their students," Marshall said.

Marshall also commented on the role the provincial government played.

The Alberta government, he said, "has recognized, in the first instance, the need for an institution that focused on undergraduate studies, but secondly, they recognized that they had to appropriately resource and support that institution," Marshall stated.

Students will be welcomed to the new Mount Royal University this week.

"Making a new university is a relatively novel thing in Canada, so it's a very exciting time for Mount Royal and I think an exciting time for Alberta," Marshall added.

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# Who Runs The U?

Last Thursday, the *Gateway* helped you to get to know the people behind the Students' Union executive and understand their roles a little better. This week, we'll be introducing you to the big kids on the block: your University of Alberta's senior administration and government.

These are the folks at the top that make all the big decisions, from plans for new buildings and residences, hiring of professors and deans, and the cost of tuition to

students. Every aspect of university life falls under the jurisdiction of one of the vice presidents.

Just like your high-school social studies class taught you, the three branches of Executive, Legislative and Judicial government apply to the University as well. This overview covers the first two branches, and explains how decisions and direction are agreed upon when everyone wants their fair share of an over-\$1.3-billion budget.

Written by  
Jon Taves  
Photos by  
Sam Brooks,  
Ryan Heise,  
and Pete Yee

## THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

The executive branch is responsible for implementing the decisions made by the legislative branch. Because of its hands-on work, the executive is expected to make proposals to the legislative for policy changes and improvements, and develop procedures, regulations, and guidelines.

### President: INDIRA SAMARASEKERA



President Indira Samarasekera began serving in her position in 2005. Before coming to the U of A, she was Vice-President (Research) at the University of British Columbia. Samarasekera began her academic career in the field of mechanical engineering with a degree from the University of Ceylon in her home country of Sri Lanka. She immigrated to Canada in 1977 and earned a PhD in metallurgical engineering from UBC. She also served as a professor in the field prior to becoming the U of A's 12th president, and first woman to hold the office. Samarasekera signed a five-year extension to her contract which will see her continue until 2015.

The President acts as the Chief Executive Officer and a comprehensive supervisor of all University operations while reporting to the Board of Governors (BoG), which appoints an individual to the position. In recent years, the role of the President has shifted its focus closer towards building relationships and developing resources with government and institutions outside the University. The President helps establish and fulfill the vision of the institution by actively forming it and being a member of the BoG, the Senate, and all Faculty Councils. The President also sits as chair of the General Faculties Council (GFC).

### Provost and Vice-President (Academic): CARL AMRHEIN



Provost and Vice-President (Academic) Carl Amrhein began his tenure at the U of A in March 2003 after being recruited from the University of Toronto. There, he was the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science for six years, and prior to that chaired the Department of Geography and Graduate Program in Planning for four years. Amrhein holds a PhD in Geography from State University of New York.

As the role of the President shifted its emphasis to becoming the external voice of the University, a need was created for a stronger internal influence. The title of "Provost" was added to the Vice-President (Academic) portfolio to satisfy this need. With

this, the Vice-President is tasked with being both the Chief Operating and Chief Academic Officer of the institution. The vice-presidents report to the President, although many responsibilities are also reviewed by the Provost and VPA.

Amrhein is the most senior of the vice-presidents and becomes acting president in the absence of the actual president. It's the mandate of the office to pay special attention to issues affecting students while shaping policy on the academic and administrative direction of the U of A. Considerations under the VPA office include the Office of the Registrar and Student Awards, graduate studies, and all interactions with faculties and deans.

### Vice-President (External Communications): DEBRA POZEGA OSBURN



The position of Vice-President (External Communications) is being held currently by acting vice-president Debra Pozega Osburn. Effective execution of this portfolio's mandate results in a positive public image and reputation for the University. The office deals with media

relations, creative direction, government and corporate relations, fund raising, and alumni relations. Osburn holds a PhD in American Studies from Michigan State University, and has been recognized by the Public Relations Society of America for her work.



**Vice-President (Facilities and Operations): DON HICKEY**

Don Hickey has been the University's Vice-President (Facilities and Operations) since 2002, having been reappointed to the position by President Samarasekera in 2006. A U of A electrical engineering graduate and former varsity athlete, Hickey came back to campus as VPFO following his work as an engineer in Edmonton, Vancouver, Chicago, and New York.

The tasks assigned to the Vice-President (Facilities and Operations) are among the most diverse within the administration. Every aspect of University infrastructure from the main campus to South Campus, Augustana, or Enterprise Square falls under his jurisdiction. The portfolio encompasses everything from parking to residences, day care to recycling

and waste management, food services to fire-safety measures. The office also manages all renovations and new construction that facilitates the long-term plans of the BoG. Projects such as the Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science and Mazankowski Heart Institute are part of the \$1 billion of capital projects being managed by the VPFO.

**Vice-President (Finance and Administration): PHYLLIS CLARK**

Phyllis Clark became the U of A's Vice-President (Finance and Administration) in May 2002 after serving in the same capacity at York University for six years. This followed a number of other positions in the financial sector including Chief Economist of Ontario, and Assistant

Deputy Minister in Ontario's Ministry of Treasury and Economics. Clark holds a master's degree in economics from the University of Michigan.

As can be expected, the diverse portfolio oversees the distribution of the University's finances in a sustainable way, along with managing supplies,

insurance, and human resources. Included in the departments' branch of Risk Management Services is campus security, emergency management, and Environmental Health and Safety. Information technology is another aspect of the job, a task shared jointly with the Vice-President (Academic).

**Vice-President (Research): LORNE BABIUK**

Lorne Babiuk is credited with being instrumental in building a successful research institution at the University of Saskatchewan during the 34 years he was a professor there. He was appointed as the U of A's Vice-President (Research) in July 2007. He began his university career at the

U of S before moving on to earn a PhD in virology from the University of British Columbia and a D.Sc. from the U of S in Veterinary Microbiology.

The VPR has a lot of responsibilities given the research-intensive focus of the U of A. The portfolio reviews

policies regarding research ethics, recognizes and rewards prominent work, and manages research-specific organizations at the U of A such as the Canadian Circumpolar Institute, TEC Edmonton (Technology Transfer Group), and the Field Research Office.



Photo supplied by the U of A

**THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH**

The bodies that make up the legislative branch of University governance consist of a wide variety of people to represent the different stakeholders both on and outside of campus. Students, faculty, administration, and people from the broader community are part of the decision-making process that guide decisions for the U of A's mandate, academic plan, and institutional policy. The two major components of the legislative branch are the GFC and the BoG. Each consists of committees that can recommend motions that can be approved, amended, or defeated by the group at large. Decisions made by the GFC must also be approved by the BoG.

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

The Board of Governors had its beginnings in 1910 with the mandate of managing the University's business affairs, and has now expanded to become the highest governing body of the institution. The BoG and GFC share seven members in common: the University President, the SU President, the Grad Student Association President, an undergraduate student nominee, another GFC member, and nominees from both the Non-Academic Staff Association and Association of Academic Staff.

21 people in total make up the BoG. In addition to the seven listed above, a publicly appointed chair, nine public members, the U of A chancellor, two alumni nominees, and one Senate nominee sit to make up the body. The BoG has committees that review each aspect of the University such as community and government relations, investments, human resources, safety, health, and environment.

**GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL**

The General Faculties Council was created in 1942, and took over the academic and student duties poached from the Senate in the same year. 158 people populate the GFC, including the President (who chairs the body), all vice-presidents, all deans, professors, students, academic and non-academic staff.

The SU and GSA presidents and the SU BoG representative are three students on the council. 40 undergraduates and 14 graduate students are also appointed. Committees in the GFC focus largely on academic concerns such as teaching awards, academic standards, facilities development, awards, and scholarships.

**SENATE AND CHANCELLOR**

The Senate was established in 1908 as the first governing body of the U of A. Since its early years however, the role of the organization has changed dramatically. It was stripped of its academic powers in 1942 and now acts as the intermediary body between the University and the public.

An independent 62-member body of diverse community leaders, the Senate's goals are to review and recommend on University actions, guard traditions, and recognize achievements at the U of A. It has six standing committees including its executive, an Honorary Degrees Committee, and National & International Affairs Committee. The members include 30 people elected from the public who represent organizations or groups with a vested interest in the U of A, nine appointed by the Minister of Learning, two non-academic staff

members also appointed by the Minister, two appointed from the BoG, three from the GFC, two from the Deans' Council, two from the Alumni Association, four appointed by the SU, and one from the GSA.

The President, the Vice-President (Academic) Provost and the Dean of Extension, the Dean of Student Services, the President and Vice-President of the Alumni Association, and the U of A Chancellor round out the Senate.

Linda Hughes was elected as the U of A's 19th Chancellor in 2008. She has been both the Publisher and Editor-in-Chief of the *Edmonton Journal*. The Chancellor chairs the Senate and acts as the titular head of the University, speaking at public events, representing community and University interests, and presiding over convocation ceremonies.



## Allegations of propaganda fail to show any class

ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, BARACK OBAMA — the President of the United States — stood in front of the young people attending Wakefield High School in Arlington, Virginia and gave a back-to-school speech about the importance of education. He isn't the first president to have done this. George H. W. Bush did it. Ronald Reagan did it. And yet this year as President Obama stepped up to the microphone, many parents flicked their TVs off and pulled their kids out of school, waving their arms and crying "propaganda" as they went.

In his speech, Obama talks about the importance of working hard in everything you do and not just what you happen to be good at. He talks about how dreams of reality TV stardom and professional athleticism are not reliable plans for success and that in the end, hard work and a solid education will be the things that give you a good job and a good life. He also spoke about how failure and asking for help are not signs of weakness, but rather, signs of having the strength to succeed. So one has to wonder about this "propaganda" that protesting parents are talking about. It sounds more like a good strong thumping bout of morals, honestly. A little dry, but nothing to get worked into a snit over.

In 1988, when Reagan gave his speech during the tail end of the Cold War, he talked about czarist dictators and the responsibilities of good Americans. And yet there was no public outcry. Suddenly, though, when Obama comments that he's "working hard to fix up your classrooms and get you the books and the equipment and the computers you need to learn," or that a child's education might help them "to develop new energy technologies and protect our environment," then people are appalled. And for what?

The most outspoken assailants can't establish a coherent argument beyond simply calling it propaganda and hoping that their angry establishment of the term "cult of Obama" will stick. There's nothing to base these accusations on — it's a personality clash more than anything.

It's a situation that reeks of sore losers and disappointed supporters. Like him or not, Obama has been coming through on a lot of his campaign promises. True, he seems to be a man who talks a lot bigger than he walks, and maybe he's dropped the ball a few times. But is it fair to shut out everything he has to say as a result?

And in the end, while it's true that children are plenty impressionable, a speech about education from a president is unlikely to cause much permanent damage. The younger ones will miss the political ideals, if there are any, and come away with what the man was *actually* talking about. And seeing as the youth of the nation were largely responsible for voting him in, it's probably not a stretch to say that many of the older kids are already on his side to begin with.

A reactionary panic like this should be saved for an instance when Obama does something actually worth noting, but when it's attached to an utterly mundane situation like this, the offended parties can't help but look silly. It would be the equivalent of people trying to call "discrimination" were the Obamas to try and pick out a breed of dog. Propaganda is a heavy-handed word that is being flung around carelessly, and should be conserved for a time when the President does something worthy of the label.

KELSEY TANASIUK  
Design & Production Editor

## Big Brother will always be watching

Note to my sister:  
Don't go to Lister parties  
Or I'm telling Mom

LUCAS WAGNER  
Online Editor



ANTONY TA

### from THE web

#### Synthesize Me

RE: "Scottish electronica musician develops the first human synthesizer" (September 7)

Like your average breathing, semi-articulate male, I applaud any situation where pop music is combined with dancing models in bikinis. As a person with vested interest in music, however, I am disappointed, unimpressed, nay, crestfallen. I am in no way disapproving of [Calvin] Harris' music, nor his accent. The man is fairly awesome in the video and the music is just as good. I am writing to address the response to this video that is, I believe, undeserved.

Being a third-year music student, the opening pseudo-explicit description of body-parts-on-instruments and the subsequent production-of-music titillates my expectations. Add the words "Human," and "Synthesizer," and I am expecting the most brilliant musical foray in years; a new instrument for everyone to behold. Sadly, I ended up with a YouTube video with mediocre use of currently existing technology, and a complete lack of innovation. Calvin Harris has duped the public.

There is *no synthesis* involved with humans here, people. The humans and the synths are so far separated you can see the long cable leading to the guy at the back at 2:23 of the *Gateway's* online post.

All he has done is created a human sequencer, and a rather brilliant one too, as most of my sequencers are flashing lights or arrays of voltage controlled jacks; no bikinis. They have turned the most analogue device, the human body, into a simple "Bop-It" spectacle. If you want to take a look at human synthesis (that is, the human body being involved with the actual tone generation) look up the Theremin on Wikipedia. And note the date that it was patented.

In closing, I'm not sure what they were trying to portray as each model has a picture on her stomach. After browsing through a couple extensive catalogues of various pin connectors, not a single one I looked at had that configuration. Even so, the one most commonly associated with modern synth music is the MIDI cable. (Five pins arranged in a quarter circle ... look it up!) I will continue to love Calvin Harris' music, but rest assured that on the giant musical glowing scoreboard of life, the man has been docked a few points.

HARRISON LEE  
Via Internet

### LETTERS FROM THE ARCHIVES

#### Double negatives are against the ideals of truth

To The Editor:

It is the aim of Student Christian Movement on this campus to stand for knowledge of the truth. In support of this aim the Student Christian Movement has exposed the film *Operation Abolition* for the distortion it is. As a consequence of this action, the leader of Young Christians for Freedom, who sponsored the film, has called the Student Christian Movement an "anti-anti-communist" body.

It was not, it is not, and it shall not, be the policy of this cabinet of the Student Christian Movement of the University of Alberta to stand in ideological opposition to any responsible, democratic, political organization. We do not wish to question the motives, but rather the consequences of such irresponsible action as the making and presentation of this film represents.

It is our desire to combat lies and libel, by whomsoever they may be endorsed, and to support the truth.

JACK G. LAKAVICH  
October 12, 1962

*Letters from the Archives* is a semi-regular feature where the Gateway runs historical letters that we feel are of particular importance — or are just really hilarious. Also when we have very few actual letters. Actual letters are very nice, people. They make the sun shine and children cheer, so send them on in expeditiously, folks.

*Letters to the editor* should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, sent via paper aeroplane, or e-mailed to [letters@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:letters@gateway.ualberta.ca). Website comments will also occasionally be printed, assuming they don't use chatspeak or crazy capitalization rules.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

*Letters to the editor* should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study and student identification number to be considered for publication.

Furthermore, emails featuring excessive amounts of exclamation marks, all-caps, large font sizes, and emoticons, are liable to be ridiculed mercilessly by the editorial staff.



# Kickoff: Operation Wealth Care



DAVID JOHNSTON

“For those not in the know, essentially what happens is that you give the SU \$200, and they give you a whole whack of free stuff and services, including half-price glasses, for a whole year. It’s like Christmas, except Santa is literally a drug dealer.”

I got new glasses this week. Rectangular frames, kinda thick, totally hipster in a semi-ironic way. They’re pretty nice, letting me rock a kind of Elvis Costello or Danny Gokey look (or, if I’m being honest, a *Revenge of the Nerds* look). So the style I’m currently rocking in this article’s headbox photo is now officially outdated. Of course, given that it’s 17 months old, it’s been unofficially outdated for a long time. But new glasses are the tipping point — the straw that broke the camel’s back, assuming the camel had astigmatism.

Anyways, don’t think that I got new specs out of vanity. I’m not that kind of person. Okay, well, I am, but I also had to do it because my old glasses got lost somewhere on the LRT from Churchill to University Stations. Someone put them down and didn’t pick them up. I blame the LRT designers, as I do in all situations like this. It was alright at first, but once night fell I realized I needed something to help me see with daylight, my guide, gone. Still I delayed getting updated oculars for a few days because I wanted to be part of the Student’s Union’s spanky new health plan, which kicked in at

the start of the month.

For those not in the know, essentially what happens is that you give the SU \$200, and they give you a whole whack of free stuff and services, including half-price glasses, for a whole year. It’s like Christmas, except Santa is literally a drug dealer.

I wouldn’t recommend the health plan for everyone, since they give the most money for stuff like accidental death and dismemberment, and I’m not sure having a big pile of money would help me once I’m dead and dismembered. (You could make the case that I’d want my family and friends to have the money, but I’m assuming upon my death, everyone I like will ritually commit mass suicide by throwing themselves off the roof of SUB, or possibly a helicopter. So that’s no help.)

But for me, alive and semi-well, the Health Plan is a wonderful, wonderful boon. Not just because it helps me see the world more clearly, but because it enables me to get a bunch of free stuff. And so, I am officially kicking off my year-long Operation Wealth Care, wherein I attempt to legally extract

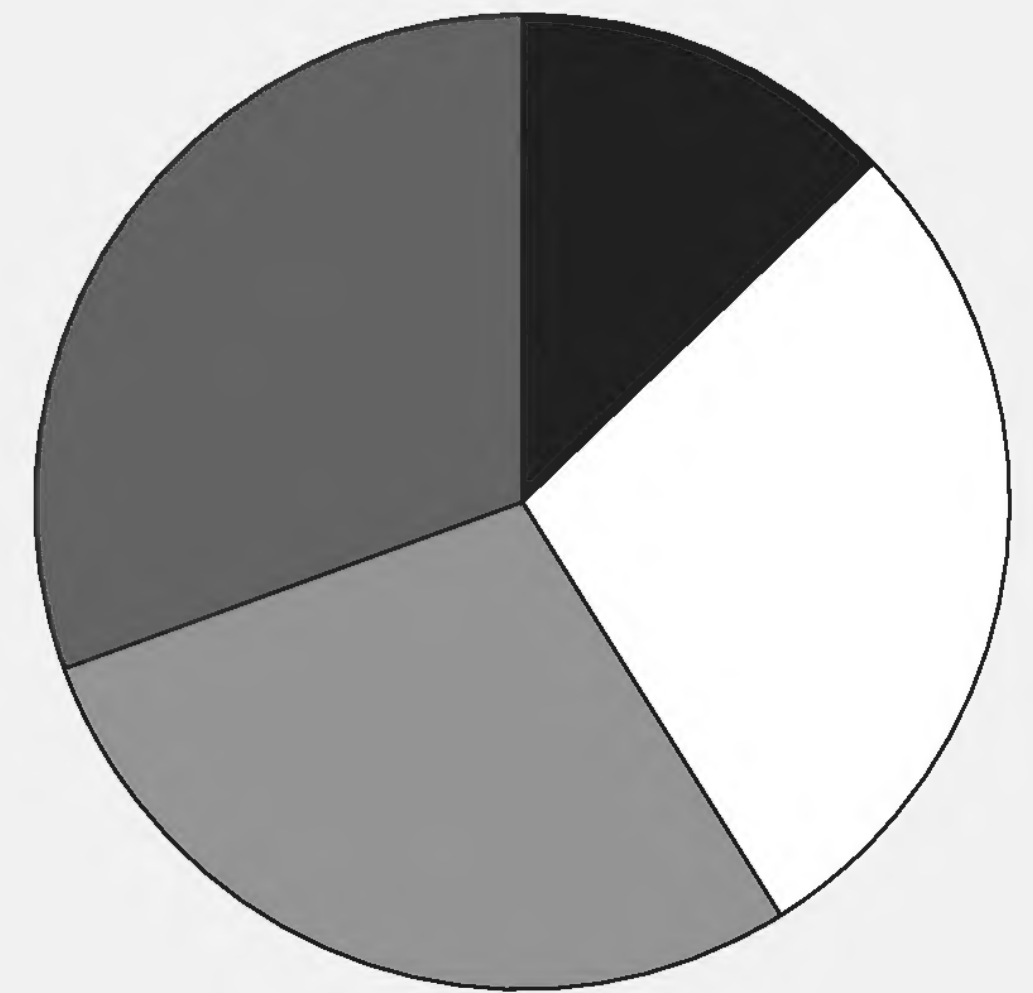
the maximum amount permissible from the SU.

Speaking of extractions, for instance, I think I’m going to get my wisdom teeth pulled. Which will probably necessitate an expensive prescription drug, something that dulls my senses. Which I’ll get addicted to, and thus need expensive psychotherapy. See what I’m planning? Every red cent that I can squeeze from the udders of our student government, I shall squeeze away. Why? Because it’s the last year of my degree, so I might as well set fire to the campus just to watch it burn. Granted, this is a rather mild fire, but I don’t have pyromania. Unless there’s an expensive drug I can take to cure pyromania, in which case I do.

So, current Operation Wealth Care total: \$100, the maximum I can spend on glasses. If you have any ideas for illnesses to contract or inane medical procedures to undergo, please forward them to david@gateway.ualberta.ca. Come on, everyone! We’ve only got a year left to go and I’m currently not sick at all. I don’t care if the things that I have to undergo are painful, embarrassing, or immoral, so let’s all start wishing me ill!

## readerpoll

“How will the increased funding the City of Edmonton is putting into improving bike trails affect you?”



- Greatly (30%)
- A little (28%)
- Not at all (28%)
- Depends. Can I still throw acorns at irritating cyclists? (14%)

TOTAL RESPONSES: 46

THIS WEEK’S QUESTION:

“How worried are you about the possibility of a new H1N1 outbreak on campus?”

**vote online at**  
**thegatewayonline.ca**

## THE BURLAP SACK

The leaves are beginning to change colour, the days are growing longer, and students have begun to replace summer memories with thoughts of labs, papers, and exams. It’s also the time of year when unfortunate souls with horrible schedules begin their daily exercise routine of running across campus.

We’ve all had that term where getting from Tory to ETLC, or Health Sciences to Humanities in 10 minutes seems (and in winter actually *is*) impossible. Running

across campus and getting stuck behind first-years that don’t yet understand it’s not okay to walk arm-in-arm, three-across in HUB is almost a rite of passage. I accept that. I am one of those people.

For those of you who are blessed with nice, tidy schedules that allow you to show up to class five minutes before the prof even thinks of leaving their office, do me a couple favours. Don’t take the very outside seat in the lecture hall, and then roll your eyes when I ask you to move so I can

sit in one of the ten perfectly good empty seats in the middle of the row. And don’t just shift your legs to the side and hope I’ll be able to squeeze by, either. That’s how you’ll get nailed in the face with a backpack, and I won’t feel all that bad. If you could only get there later, you could be in the same boat as the rest of us.

But if, in fact, you don’t want to be inconvenienced by moving, stay out of the end seat. It certainly wouldn’t be any inconvenience for me to throw you into

the Burlap Sack until you’ve learned your lesson. It’s only slightly less comfortable than a backpack to the face, so you should be used to it.

KAITLYN YOUNG

*The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten is ridiculed in print. No sack beatings are actually administered.*

## SWEAT CLINIC

Stop Problem  
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**LITTLE VOICE, BIG VENUE** Make Poverty History participants swarm the legislature grounds in their usual masses.

# Going down in (Make Poverty) History



MUSTAFA FAROOQ

Imagine I had a problem that was deep and systemic. You can throw anything in there you like, from rage issues to poor writing skills. Imagine this problem was affecting my everyday life, influencing my perspectives, my attitudes, and my dreams. Imagine that you decided to help ease my pain, and decided to do so by asking as many people as possible to help me solve my problem by standing up in a coordinated motion. That's all: just ask people to stand. Boy, the image of everyone coming to their feet and bumbling around sure is easing my pain. I am healed! I am referring, obviously to any cynical third-years, and subtly for any freshmen, to the movement to Make Poverty History.

This brilliant plan was originally conceived to raise awareness about — you guessed it — poverty. In spite of the fact that I thought that the “think of the children of China” was close to cliché, it appears some people don't know that people are impoverished. Well, it's true. A billion people today live in poverty, which is a really deep problem, requiring some serious work by the affected countries to raise awareness.

The “Make Poverty History” initiative apparently attempts to take a massive problem and deal with it using three key methods: having students wear white wristbands, having students stand up in unison, and the upcoming symbolic destruction of a large pumpkin. Yes, really. This last one has some serious ethical and moral concerns. You don't help anybody by standing, but you definitely hurt the pumpkin. That, to me, is

really brutally unfair. Poor pumpkin. Putting aside any grammatical jabs I could take at their ironic name, I have several major concerns with the “Make Poverty History” initiative.

Firstly, the bands. I've done some brief calculations based on the local “Stand Up/Take Action” booth. Making white bands costs money — according to the website, they cost two dollars each. There were probably around 30 bands on the table, which cost the organization around \$60. That would, in Bangladesh for example, if properly invested, feed around 40 people.

**Synchronized standing doesn't say “Here are some details about worldwide poverty,” so much as it says “Here are some people attempting lame Busby Berkeley choreography moves.”**

So think about that next time you get a wristband — what you're wearing on your arm is essentially a roll of money that could actually help people. In addition, you make me wonder if you perhaps have a tragic disease, like diabetes, and I should feel sorry for you, in the same tradition of feeling sorry for the models and stars who sport the band stylishly in Make Poverty History posters. I guess the white-band/ending-poverty causality construct gets legitimized when celebrities think that it works (for more details, visit the Make Poverty Fashionable site).

But what about standing up? While it could make someone incredibly obese lose weight, and thus set him up on a

mission to help the impoverished, it's not going to directly aid anyone. I hate to break this to everyone, but poverty is an age-old institution that we all know about. It's the *details* that we don't know about, and synchronized standing doesn't say “Here are some details about worldwide poverty,” so much as it says “Here are some people attempting lame Busby Berkeley choreography moves.”

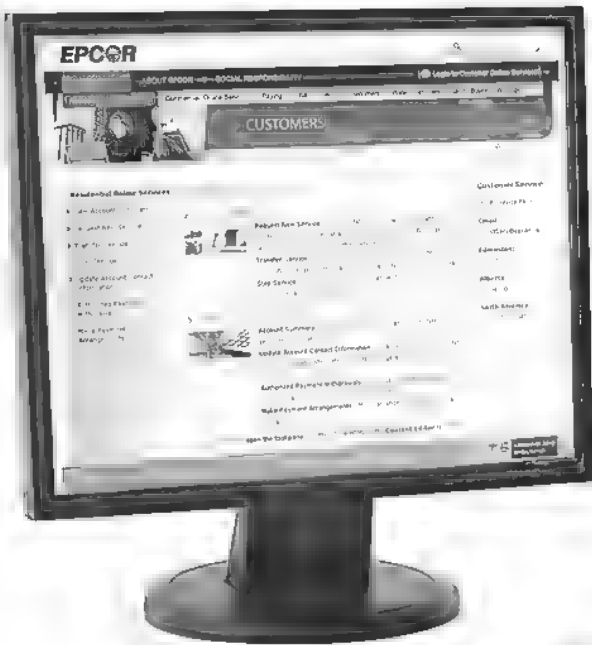
And please don't get me started on the pumpkin again. Please, people, forget about aid or student awareness or anything like that. Stats indicate, according to economist Paul Collier, that all the billions of dollars of aid sent to Africa in the recent past has raised Africa's growth by one per cent. Clearly, we need more wristbands. As well, there are a horde of problems associated with aid like Dutch disease, mismanagement, and the destruction of local infrastructures (basically, a Wal-Mart-style effect). If you really want to help the starving people overseas, petition your governments to do just one thing: please stop killing them.

You'll notice that the major recipients of aid are pretty much countries the Western Hemisphere has bombed to the ground (for example, Canada's main aid recipient, Afghanistan, was one that we helped “bomb back to the Stone Age”). If you really think we can help, just encourage our government to leave them alone — seriously, I'm pretty sure Africa and the Middle East would always be appreciative if the developed world could just stop enslaving, exploiting, and bombing them.

That's pretty much the apparent run-down on Make Poverty History. If you want to join in the doom clock ticking downwards, that's cool. But know that at the end of the day, when people look back at you, they're going to lump you in the same category as the people who supported NAFTA. A change is needed. Perhaps the next wristbands should just be beige.

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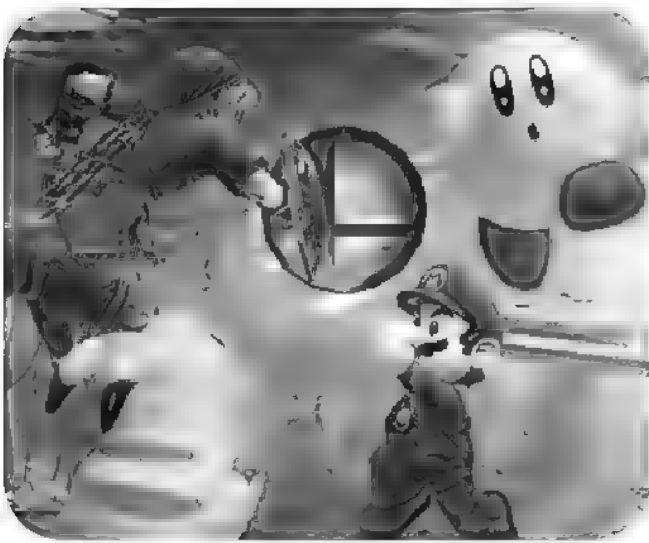
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## SOCIAL INTERCOURSE

### Little Ashes

*Directed by Paul Morrison*  
*Starring Robert Pattinson, Matthew McNulty, and Javier Beltran*  
 September 11-14  
 Metro Cinema (9828-101A Ave.)

When the news came out that *Twilight* star and Hollywood’s Pied Piper of teen girls, Robert Pattinson, was starring as eccentric mustachioed painter Salvador Dali, the usual chaotic frenzy of high-pitched screaming ensued. Much like how girls were cutting themselves to “bleed for Edward” and show their devotion to Pattinson, fans of his Dali portrayal would show up on the red carpet to get a glimpse of Pattinson, then turn a blow-torch onto their wrists to “melt for Salvador,” taking inspiration from Dali’s famous oozing “Persistence of Memory” portrait. Similar to how he responded to the *Twilight* girls, Pattinson was deeply impressed by his fans’ fervent appreciation for his acting, and didn’t at all recoil in horror at the sight of flesh being seared away before having to go through rounds of intense therapy for post-traumatic stress.

But while waking up in a cold sweat screaming every night for the rest of your life is a small price to pay for fame, Pattinson clearly wanted to get out of the spotlight for this arthouse flick, which takes place during the Dali’s formative years at university. The film takes a look at the personal friendships that influenced the mind and works of Salvador Dali, which Pattinson’s young *Twilight* fans probably think is a taco franchise or something.

### Seraphine

*Directed by Martin Provost*  
*Starring Yolande Moreau, Ulrich Tukur, and Anne Bennent*  
 Princess Theatre (1033/-82 Ave.)

I’ve always held a deep-seated, irrational dislike of French painters. Like that Monet guy — what an asshole. But French films about French painters are, as the French put it, *très bien*. Yolanda Moreau stars as Seraphine de Senlis, an orphaned girl who survives through her backbreaking work as a maid, spending her free time painting amazing floral landscapes. That is, until she’s rescued from her life of toil by German art collector Wilhelm Uhde, who discovers her talent. The film then chronicles how their lives intertwine over the years despite rapidly changing social factors such as war and the Depression. In 2008, the film won seven César Awards — the French equivalent of the Oscars — including Best Film. And once again, the immaculate historical record for anything to do with German art collection goes untarnished.

### Silverstein

*With A Day to Remember, Ten Second Epic, and I Am Committing A Sin*  
 September 16 and 17 at 5 p.m.  
 Starlite Room (10030-102 Ave.)  
 \$24.50 at Ticketmaster and Union Events

What exactly does “post-hardcore” mean? Why are bands that add screaming on top of melodic punk rock called “post-hardcore” when it’s in no way anything like hardcore? Why are musical genre classifications so idiotic? If you’re looking for answers to burning questions like this, you might be glad to know that none of them are answered by Burlington, Ontario post-hardcore band Silverstein, who are set to play two nights at the Starlite Room in support of their recently released 2009 concept album *Shipwreck in the Sand*. But they will still scream at you while playing melodic punk rock.

JOHN KMECH  
 Sandra Bullock Superfan

# SU Prez gives funnybone an extended tickle



FILE PHOTO:MIKE OTTO

## theatrepreview

### Die-Nasty’s 17th Annual 50-Hour Soap-A-Thon

*Directed by Dana Andersen*  
*Music by Paul Morgan Donald*  
*Starring Matt Alden, Peter Brown, Tom Edwards, Jeff Haslam, Kory Mathewson, Mark Meer, Davina Stewart, Stephanie Wolfe, Donovan Workun, and special international guests*  
 Starts September 11 at 7 p.m. and runs continuously until September 13 at 9 p.m.  
 Varscona Theatre (10329-83 Ave.)  
 \$10-40 at the door

BRYAN SAUNDERS  
 Arts & Entertainment Staff

As president of the Students’ Union, Kory Mathewson must often work long days — but staying awake for 50 hours straight *for fun*? That’s just insane!

While it may sound more than a little crazy, Mathewson will be testing the limits of sleep deprivation this weekend as he jumps on stage and joins the cast of Die-Nasty’s 17th annual Soap-A-Thon, a live improvised soap opera that will run continuously from 7 p.m. on Friday evening to 9 p.m. on Sunday night.

And it won’t be the first time that he’s attempted the feat either. Mathewson — who performs regularly with the local improv company Rapid Fire Theatre — first got involved with the Soap-A-Thon in 2006.

“Three years ago, fellow improviser Mark Meer approached me as one of the performers in Rapid Fire. He told me that there was this crazy long improv marathon going on and [asked] would I like to come out and do a few hours” Mathewson recalls.

“That year, I went on stage at Friday night at midnight or something and I just didn’t stop. I kept going the whole weekend! Mark kept telling me, ‘You know, you only need to do a few hours,’ but I ended up doing about 45 hours — 50 hours almost — on my first time,” he laughs.

But fun aside, being awake for that long isn’t without its consequences, Mathewson admits.

“I remember last year, it was right in the middle of the Soap-A-Thon, and things were starting to get a little bit weird in my head. The whole theatre was looking totally distorted to me, and I just started

commenting on how the theatre was shaped differently — I wasn’t even commenting on what was happening in the scene! I just started talking about how weird and distorted the theatre was,” he laughs.

“And then, the girl that I was doing the scene with just started drinking a bottle of ketchup — like it was a totally normal thing to do!”

“So the audience must have been *really* weirded out when that started happening and we sort of shook each other down afterwards and said, ‘That was a little weird. Maybe we should just take it easy, get something to eat, and get ready for the next two hours.’”

As Mathewson explains, the 50-hour Soap-A-Thon is divided into 25 two-hour long blocks, and between blocks there are 10-minute intermissions so that the actors can grab coffee before going back on for another two hours, and so that the audience can also take a break. And yes, there is always an audience — even at 5 a.m. on a Sunday morning.

“And then, the girl that I was doing the scene with just started drinking a bottle of ketchup — like it was a totally normal thing to do!”

KORY MATHEWSON  
 SU PRESIDENT AND CASUAL IMPROV PERFORMER

“There are some funny moments where there are more people onstage than there are in the seats,” Mathewson smiles. “But there are definitely some people who come out and watch the whole thing. I had a friend last year who only came at the off-peak times. So, she would come Saturday morning at 2 a.m. and Sunday morning at 2 a.m. because she said the actors are just out of their minds at that time and it’s just hilarious to watch.”

And after having done the Soap-A-Thon a few times now, Mathewson feels he’s finally getting the hang of it.

“There’s definitely some strategy to it. You bank some sleep beforehand and you make sure that you’ve got the right food to get you through: you can’t have anything too high in sugar or else you’ll crash.

“You also have to be mentally prepared, so I find myself reading a lot of books or watching a lot of movies about the theme that we’re doing so that I

have some stuff in my head that I can draw from and work with. It’s a high school theme this year, so I’ll be watching — I dunno — *Ferris Bueller’s Day Off* and *The Breakfast Club*. Stuff like that.”

## KORY’S ARTISTIC PROCESS

As an actor, the 50 hours of a Soap-A-Thon can be divided into four distinct stages, Mathewson explains:

**1** “First, there’s forming, which is right at the beginning where you’re just sort of laying the groundwork and you’re just sort of getting ready. You’re just sort of building relationships with the other characters in the soap opera.”

**2** “Then there’s norming, which is where you start living in that reality you’ve created and everything just starts being real to you. You interact with the other people and the stage, and it’s real. You’re existing in that reality.”

**3** “And then there’s performing, which is when you start to get a little loopy in the head and things get a little crazy. That’s when the real abstract stuff will come out and you really start to just use your improv background and just explode with some totally off-the-wall things that the other improvisers then have to work to re-incorporate into what’s real.”

**4** “Finally, there’s storming. The first thing that happens when you finish the Soap-A-Thon is that you’ve got to decompress all the stuff that’s in your head. So all the actors usually get together afterwards and write in a big book everything that they can remember. It’s really good to do that right afterwards because then you can riff with other people or else you forget things.”

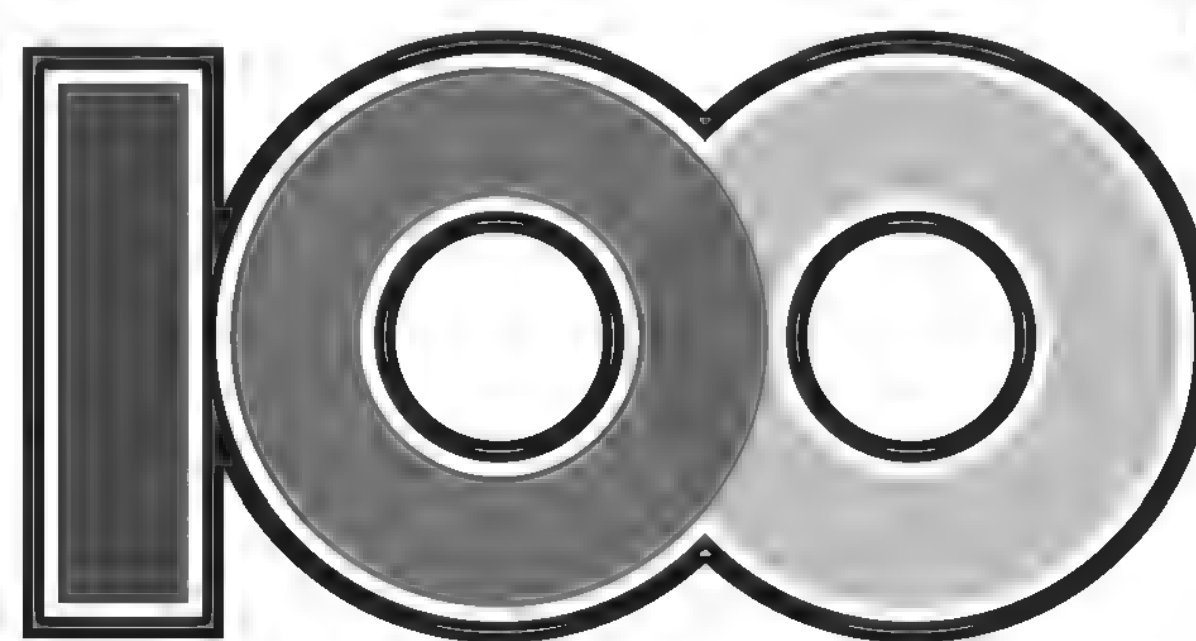
**5** And once it’s all over, of course, there is dorming — that is, the fine art of resting. “After all that, I’ll take a nice big long sleep — which for me will be like 12 or 15 hours — and then I’m good to go.”



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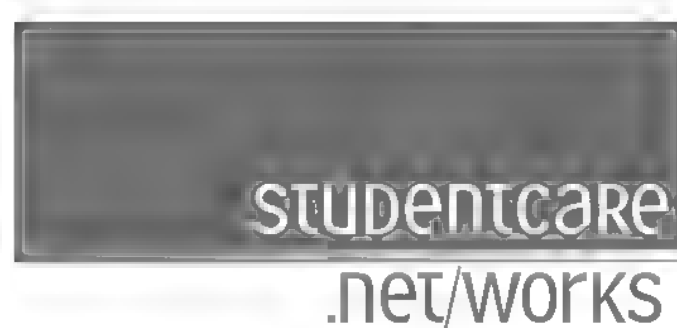
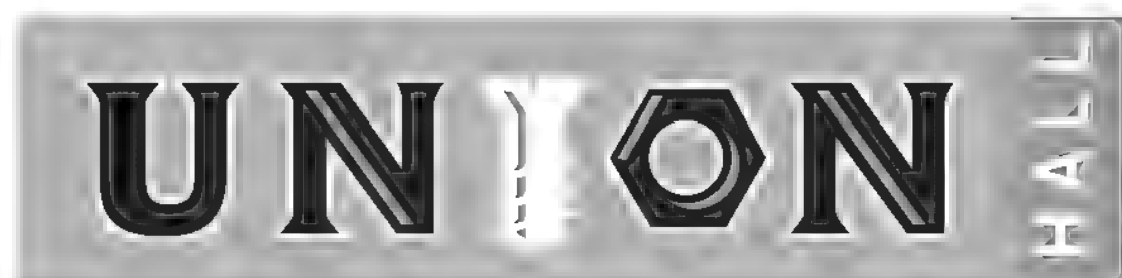


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# All About infatuation and stalking

Sandra Bullock's latest film about crosswords and love misses the comedic mark



## filmreview

### All About Steve

Directed by Phil Traill  
Starring Sandra Bullock and Bradley Cooper  
Now Playing

SARAH STEAD  
Arts & Entertainment Editor

"In life, as in crosswords, some days are harder than others," spouts Mary Horowitz (Sandra Bullock) early into *All About Steve*. This nugget of wisdom is just the first of many painfully inept crossword analogies that sets the tone for this end-of-summer comedic blunder.

Mary is an eccentric professional crossword constructor in her mid-30s, single, and living with her parents temporarily while her apartment is being fumigated. After appearing at an elementary school Career Day and being teased about her life by eight-year-old brats, Mary decides that perhaps she should try to dip her toes back into the dating pool, so she allows her parents to set her up on a blind date.

Bullock's character is initially presented as someone who revels in being a misfit. She proudly wears knee-high fire-engine red boots wherever she goes and spouts random bits of arcane crossword trivia to perfect strangers. And despite the fact that she's been going through a dry spell romantically, she seems very happy with herself and the single life until she's mocked about it. But instead of maintaining the role of the quirky-but-happy lead, Mary soon begins to take the criticism to heart.

"If society wants me to be normal, then normal I will be," Mary

ironically affirms to her hamster, while preparing for the date.

Though Steve (Bradley Cooper) is initially attracted to Mary, her appalling and bizarre behaviour on their date cause him to end things before they even manage to get out of her driveway. Steve cuts his losses and continues on with his job as a traveling TV cameraman, while Mary develops a disturbing obsession with the man she's spent only five minutes with. In what's apparently supposed to be a touching tribute to him, Mary creates a crossword all about Steve (Get it? Get it?). Apparently her newspaper doesn't proofread, because the puzzle goes to print and she is subsequently fired for her lack of professionalism.

***All About Steve* is really all about nothing. It's painful to see Bullock and Cooper, who are both capable comedic actors, flounder through such an unfunny script.**

Instead of looking for other employment, Mary interprets her job loss as a sign that she's meant to follow Steve across the country as he works and convince him to be with her.

As Mary stalks Steve from state to state, we learn that she knows 17 languages, a lot about science and physics, and harbours more random facts in her brain than a game of *Trivial Pursuit*.

But for a gal who is clearly has some intelligence, she has a lot of issues with listening. Steve tries to politely

brush off her advances at first, and even when he becomes more stern with his rejections, Mary fails to curtail her efforts to win his heart, and instead increases the intensity of her efforts, perpetuating the myth that all single women are desperately lonely kooks who will do anything to land a man.

The main problem with *All About Steve* is that the film is undecided on what point it wants to make. It's unsuccessful as a romantic comedy due to the more-uncomfortable-than-cute methods that Mary uses to stalk Steve, and it's equally ineffective as a picture about embracing one's uniqueness in the face of criticism because Mary is a complete pushover, easily manipulated by her boss, her parents, and even people she's just met.

Steve is presented as heartless for refusing Mary's affection, but based on the psychotic extents to which Mary goes to be close to Steve, it's pretty difficult not to take his side. Her inability to connect to anyone but a dim-witted southern bumpkin (Katy Mixon) and a man who makes sculptures out of apple cores (DJ Qualls) is because she's more than just the offbeat non-conformist the film tries to paint her as, and trying to spin her obsession as cute only makes Mary less relatable and more annoying.

*All About Steve* is really all about nothing. The film fails miserably at every lesson it tries to teach and the only character who has his head on straight, Steve, is the character the audience is supposed to hate. It's painful to see Bullock and Cooper, who are both capable comedic actors, flounder through such an unfunny script.

In the end, the film is like a crossword with a missing clue: frustrating, pointless, but luckily, soon forgotten.

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# Rocksteady develops the ultimate fan-friendly *Batman* game

## gamereview

### Batman: Arkham Asylum

Published by Eidos Interactive  
Developed by Rocksteady Studios  
Now Available on PC, Xbox 360, and PlayStation 3

IAN PHILLIPCHUK  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Games, like people, often leave an indelible impression upon their audience within the first few moments of familiarity. Using only a single button press, when Batman drives both feet upwards towards the unfortunate face of one of the Joker's henchmen, one of those moments unfolds. When the action slows down to a snail's pace, twisting the camera, showing every detail of his feet impacting on the chin of the unfortunate schmuck, lifting him off of the ground and propelling him backwards clutching his face in agony, the undeniable impression is that *Batman: Arkham Asylum* is an incredible game.

*Arkham Asylum* begins with the big flying rodent committing numerous violations as he rushes to deliver his nemesis, the Joker, to the titular mental health institution. Once inside, the Joker manages to escape from Bat's clutches, freeing the prisoners of Arkham, kidnapping Commissioner Gordon, and causing all sorts of other chaos. Naturally, Batman is trapped inside and goes to work reminding why all of his foes were locked up and he was sipping champagne in a billionaire's mansion.

Perhaps the best part of the experience is that developers Rocksteady Studios have really grasped what it



means to take control of the Caped Crusader. At one point during Joker's transfer, the lights in the elevator all died, to the panic and screams of the guards. Sensing that this might be the inevitable point of the Joker's escape, it should be immediately wrong for any fan of the superhero. Batman letting his greatest foe get away from him in a small elevator because of darkness? Ridiculous. When the lights came back on however, Batman has the Joker's neck in a chokehold, as with a single arm he keeps the Joker from moving at all.

Little touches all over the place are proof positive that not only does Rocksteady have a great grasp of the character, they have poured heart and soul into him. The voice acting is all top notch, with most of the cast from the long running animated series, including the creepy Mark Hamill as the villainous Joker. Anyone who has grown up watching the cartoons will feel right at home.

But more than that, fans playing *Arkham Asylum* will swear that they're watching the comic. Like never before, the impression is that you are

controlling the true Batman, instead of some pathetic facsimile. Using simple button combinations, the player will soon have Batman dodging and weaving around hordes of opponents, taking them out with precise surgical strikes and raw physical brutality.

The controls are tight and fluid, and allow even the least experienced player to feel like a complete badass. Access to all of Bruce Wayne's fancy toys combined with the intuitive control schema makes it child's play to use the grappling hook to manoeuvre above an unsuspecting enemy before billowing

out the cape with a leap, and silently collapsing the poor sap with a boot to the back of the skull.

Without question, this is the greatest game ever to feature Batman, and a contender for my personal game of the year. Whether using his detective prowess, or flinging batarangs to knock gun-toting henchmen off of catwalks, *Batman: Arkham Asylum* delivers a near-perfect experience. Rocksteady have created a game that is a must-own for fans. For even a casual fan of the character, I have a simple recommendation: buy this game.

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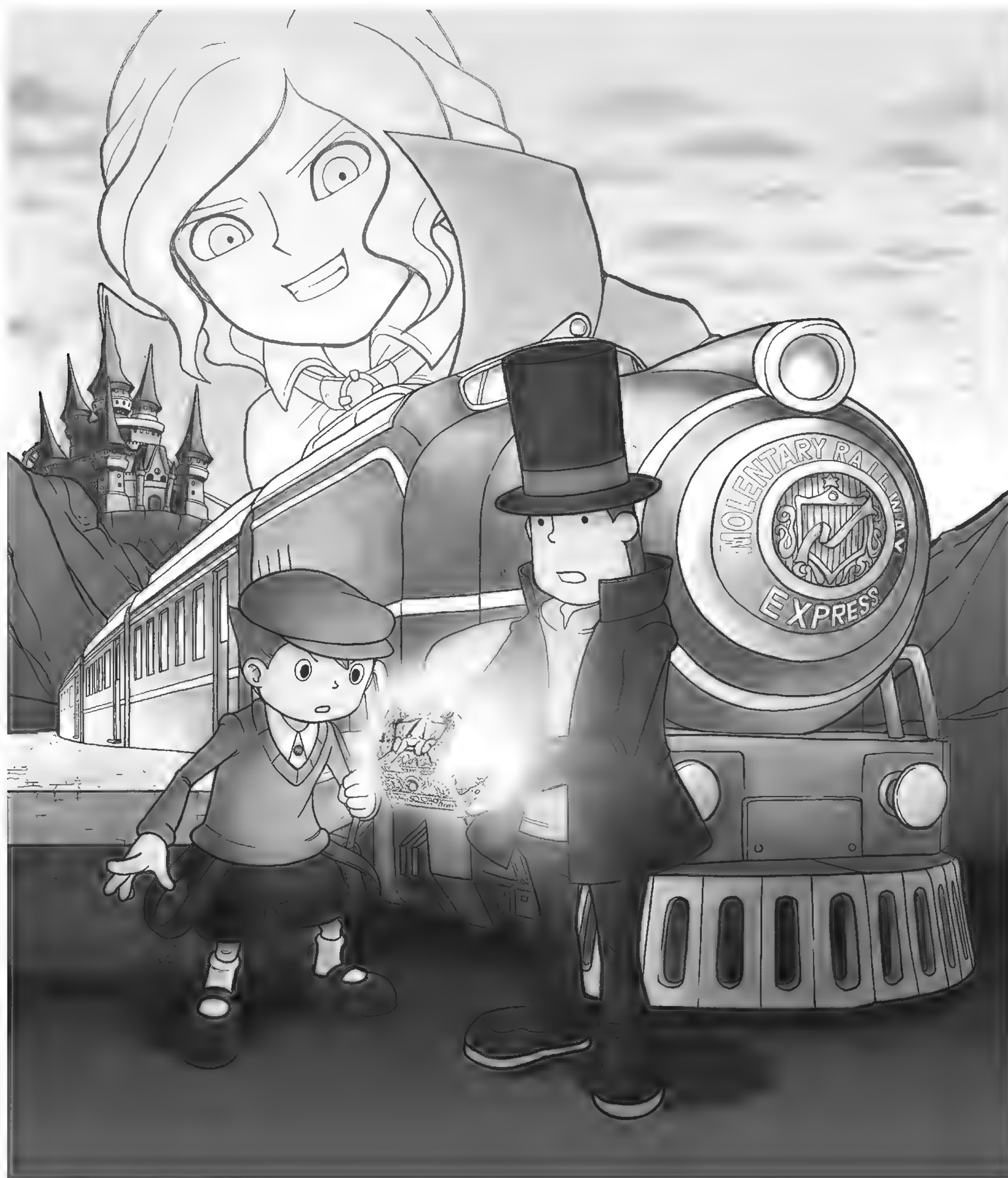
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## Prof. Layton diabolically puzzling

### gamereview

#### Professor Layton and the Diabolical Box

Published by Level-5

Developed by Level-5

Now Available on Nintendo DS

MIKE KENDRICK  
Editor-in-Chief

'Twas the night before your 8 a.m. class, in an absence of slumber, a small screen is glowing with figures and numbers. The clock has struck four and you lay 'wake in bed, while visions of picarats dance through your head.

Such is the allure of the Diabolical Box, the namesake of the latest edition in the *Professor Layton* series. After solving a murder mystery in a quaint little town known as St. Mystere, the academic of archeology is back with his trusty assistant Luke, bringing with them an even wider assortment of puzzles and riddles in *Professor Layton and the Diabolical Box*.

On the surface, there's nothing astoundingly revolutionary about the game, at least when set against its predecessor. Picking up after the dust of the first game's story has settled, Professor Layton receives a letter from a colleague with information about an object known as the Elysian Box, which is rumoured to bring death to any who open it.

Shortly before Layton and Luke arrive at his apartment, he seemingly becomes the latest victim of the box's mysterious power, cracking open a case of enigmas that set the story in motion and will take you on an eerie train ride to a not-quite-right

town, culminating in spooky castles, creepy vampires, and acrobatic swordfights. The overarching murder mystery plot loosely ties your actions throughout the game together, but at its very essence, it's merely there to function as a platform for the variety of puzzles you'll come across in your travels.

While the word "puzzle" has become synonymous with fast-paced casual games like *Tetris* and *Peggle* in today's Flash-game-based genre, *Diabolical Box's* puzzles offer a welcome throwback to a more traditional brand of mystery, focusing on riddles, brainteasers, logic puzzles, and at times, problems that are likely to be found in your eighth-grade math textbook. The game boasts "over 150 brainteasers," and although a fair number overlap and are simply more challenging versions of previous puzzles, there's still enough diversity in the puzzle library to hold players' attention.

This is actually the key draw: for all its utter simplicity, *Diabolical Box* is undeniably addictive, occupying the territory of the "just one more round!" breed of repetitive-but-entertaining games. Regardless of how much free time you have to kill, be it a five-minute wait at the bus stop or a trudging three-hour evening class, it's easy to pick up the game, dive in with little delay, and engross yourself for however long you choose — though it's just as simple to lose track of how long you've been racking your brain, only to realize that it's the middle of the night before that huge paper is due.

That being said, some of the game's puzzles can come with an unexpected difficulty curve. This isn't necessarily due to the challenge factor, which is aided by a hint system, where progressively detailed clues

can be unlocked with coins found in hidden places throughout the world. Rather, it's the simple limitations that the format of computer-driven logic bring, combined with the DS' small, low-resolution screen that can leave you scratching your head at certain puzzles, even after they're thoroughly explained on the solution screen, and wondering how many players would come to the same conclusions that the game feels are so obviously apparent.

Luckily, this sort of issue is the exception rather than the norm, and the game never forces you into a corner with a puzzle or challenge that's too difficult, which prevents you from progressing. Further, there's a full compliment of optional mini-games that feel as though a certain effort has been put in to make them fun — unlike the tacked-on "extras" that so many games of Layton's ilk come packaged with. With such a wide variety of puzzles and quests, it's hard to get bored or frustrated, regardless of where your strengths lie.

Wrapping up the delectable package is a series of animated cut-scenes that could just as easily stand alone as their own film production. Despite the game's somewhat-shallow storyline, the cartoon visuals bring the whimsy and wonder of the game's world together in a way that makes characters and environments fun, and keeps players from seeing them as merely two-dimensional stand-ups that are simply propping up the puzzle system.

Once you've opened the *Diabolical Box*, it can be tough to shut it again — clocking in at around 14 hours of play time (not to mention the replay value of downloadable weekly puzzles) Layton and his companions will keep you engaged in a plethora of puzzles for days or weeks to come.

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## Tideline addresses plights of new Canadians

As a first-generation immigrant, playwright Mouawad draws on own experience



PETE YEE

### theatrepreview

#### Tideline

Directed by Jeff Page  
 Written by Wajdi Mouawad  
 Translated by Shelley Tupperman  
 Runs September 17-26 at 7:30 p.m.,  
 12:30 p.m. matinee September 24  
 No show Sunday, September 20th  
 Timms Centre (87 Ave. and 112 St.)  
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 person at the box office

BEN DEXTRAZE  
 Arts & Entertainment Staff

In a world so obsessed with vanity, sometimes it's easy to overlook the everyday struggles that are going on around us. Where you call "home" is an easily answered question for most, but some of us are still looking for a place where we feel we belong — for a place that we can truly call "home".

"[Wajdi Mouawad] came from war-torn Lebanon, and this ends up making his plays about belonging, and belonging in a world where boundaries are continually being erased and redefined," MFA directing candidate Jeff Page says about a play that will ultimately help culminate his thesis at the University of Alberta.

"I would say *Tideline* is an excellent summation of the struggle of belonging that Wajdi Mouawad must have himself as a first generation Canadian."

Mouawad's past is an entanglement of contrasting cultures and societies, as the playwright journeyed halfway

around the globe as a child before landing in Canada at the age of nine. However, since that turbulent time, Mouawad has gone on to find success. He graduated from the National Theatre School of Canada in 1991, and after enjoying success as a director and playwright, was appointed the Artistic Director of the National Arts Centre French Theatre in 2007.

**"I want people to think about trying to survive in Canada as a first-generation Canadian, where everyone around us is afforded the freedom of sex, drugs, and rock and roll — but what if your traditions are more rigid?"**

JEFF PAGE  
 DIRECTOR, STUDIO THEATRE'S TIDELINE

*Tideline*, or *Littoral* as it's known in French, won Mouawad the coveted Governor-General's award in 2000. The play explores the life of a young, disillusioned man who is a first-generation Canadian. However, living within the luxuries of a first-world nation can't erase his troubled past. Being raised by a single father after his mother dies in childbirth, the main character's life is only worsened when his remaining parent abandons him.

Now, when the man is forced to

deal with the sudden death of his father, and take his body back to his homeland, he runs into unexpected problems which help him re-evaluate his life.

"I really want to do plays that speak to what I believe is the contemporary Canadian, and specifically, to the Edmontonian experience," Page elaborates.

"I believe that contemporary Canada is primarily an immigrant experience. I want people to think about trying to survive in Canada as a first-generation Canadian, where everyone around us is afforded the freedom of sex, drugs, and rock and roll — but what if your traditions are more rigid?"

In essence, Page hopes *Tideline*, with its mix of comedy and drama, will allow the audience to re-identify themselves to the community in which they live, to the multicultural society which surrounds us all.

"We live in a completely liberal society that is overrun with the greatest pleasures of life. But what if you came from a place that didn't allow you to show your skin, or date outside of your religion? What if you came from a place that was like that, but you were now living here as a young person?" questions Page.

"[Wajdi Mouawad] is a Lebanese-born, French-raised Canadian playwright. He is in all senses a quintessential Canadian citizen in that his heritage is French, and now I'm doing an English translation of his work. His story and mine are different, only in that we come from different lands and now we call Canada home."



# Basic etiquette for concert-goers

Just because you're excited to see Nickelback doesn't mean you should throw your beer in the air and wave it around like you just don't care — because the person next to you might



SARAH STEAD

Over the past year, I've probably been to about 20 concerts, and over time, I've noticed that my level of enjoyment at a show is usually affected more by other concert-goers than the band onstage. Many times the experience of taking in live music is unnecessarily ruined by people who fail to display basic courtesies to other fans at the same show.

While I don't think music lovers should have to stay seated with their hands folded in their laps, giving only a single nod of approval after each song, there are a few very simple things that concert-goers can do to improve the experience for everybody.

First, if you're seated in the middle of a row, try to wait until intermissions to go pee or grab a drink. If you absolutely must excuse yourself during the show, it's forgivable if you do so quickly, but no more than three times throughout the concert.

Most venues are now smoke-free, and while I pass no judgment on smokers, I do object when that

person chooses to chain smoke from the first song of the opening act to the encore's last hurrah. When I went to see Bob Dylan earlier this year, several patrons had to be forcibly removed for emanating certain lyrics to "Rainy Day Women #12 & 35." In general, if you must smoke anything, do it outside.

**Don't fight over merchandise. Almost every band has a website where you can purchase the same stuff they're selling at the show, and occasionally, it's cheaper once the tour is over and they need to unload the surplus goods**

If you've arrived late, then you don't deserve a front row-space against the gate, so don't push your way up there anyway. The people at the front waited longer than you did, probably like the band more than you do, and are willing to go hours without peeing to maintain that spot. When I went to see Stephen Malkmus at

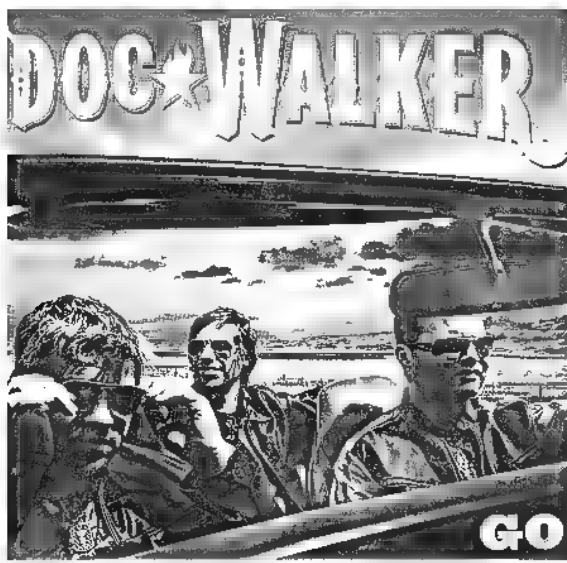
the Sasquatch festival in Washington last year, I waited five hours and sat through four bands I didn't even like to secure the best possible spot.

Don't fight over merchandise. Almost every band has a website where you can purchase the same stuff they're selling at the show, and occasionally, it's cheaper once the tour is over and they need to unload the surplus goods. There's no point in starting an argument over who should be allowed to pay too much for the last shirt. And besides, who wants to be that asshole who wears the concert swag to the concert? You're at the concert. You like the band. We get it.

Respect the personal space of those around you. This doesn't go for every concert, but outside of most hardcore or punk shows, pushing or throwing elbows or punches just isn't necessary. A good rule of thumb: if there's no pit, there's no need to lose your shit.

But accidents happen. If you're dancing or having a good time and happen to knock a beer out of someone's hand, just apologize and replace the drink. Remember the Beer Hall Putsch? Escalating an argument when you're surrounded by drunks rarely has positive results.

Oh, and if somebody has already requested "Free Bird," the joke's been made. Just let it go. Unless it's a Lynyrd Skynyrd concert. In that case, ignore everything I've just said.



Doc Walker

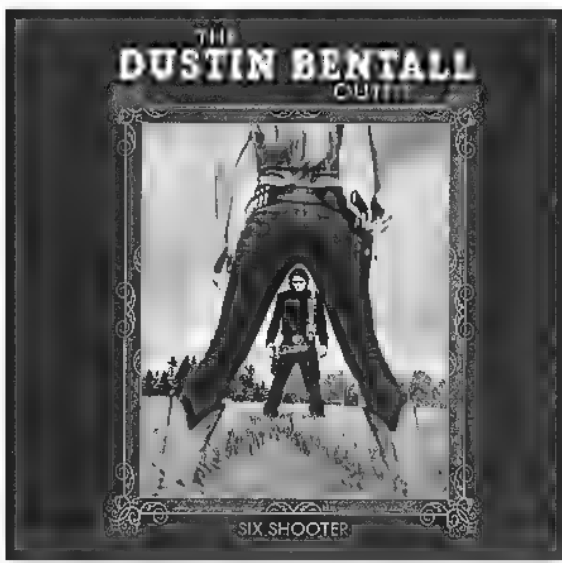
Go  
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Dustin Bentall Outfit

Six Shooter  
Impala Records

VS



KELSEY TANASIUKE  
Design and Production Editor

The plan: pick two albums and pit them against each other in a gruesome deathmatch until a victor emerges. There can be only one!

### Album Title

**Bentall:** *Six Shooter* isn't exactly the most inventive title, but it still manages to be fun and a little intriguing.

**Walker:** *Go*. Go where? Go do what? Just go, that's all they want you to do.

**Advantage:** Bentall, but only by a hair.

### Cover Art

**Bentall:** The cover of *Six Shooter* depicts a classic showdown featuring Dustin Bentall staring down a blonde cowgirl with a gun at her side. The inside also features a photo of Dustin in full outlaw cowboy duds, walking into the sun like a man on a mission.

**Walker:** Three dudes are in a convertible driving down a country road wearing rad sunglasses. It's also heavily Photoshopped to give it a gritty feel with vibrant blues and yellows. It's pleasant enough looking, but it's nothing ground-breaking. One of the guys is awkwardly adjusting his sunglasses, but maybe he was going for a *CSI: Miami* sort of thing.

**Advantage:** Bentall again. Old-fashioned cowboys are far more intriguing than modern ones.

### First Track

**Bentall:** "Railroad." Any song that contains the line "Just a travelling

hobo on a lonely train" is going to win favour with this reviewer. "Railroad" does a good job of evoking the old-world cowboy theme that's hinted at by the album's title and cover art.

**Walker:** "Coming Home." So guess what? This song is about a guy coming home — because he misses his girl. It sounds like pretty much everything played on country stations.

**Advantage:** For atmosphere and storytelling, Bentall earns another point.

### Title Track

**Bentall:** "Six Shooter" starts off as a fun, jumpy wild-west tall tale. Unfortunately, it gets gimmicky quickly and leaves you wanting to skip ahead a song. It doesn't save itself with the fade out which changes up the tune's repetitiveness.

**Walker:** "Go" is actually a slow song. It's a bit ambiguous as far as who the song is addressed to: a daughter or a lover. But they straighten it out by mentioning that they "lay a soft kiss on your neck" — at least, we hope that straightens it out for you.

**Advantage:** "Go" is forgettable, but at least it's not annoying. A point for Doc Walker.

### Best Track

**Bentall:** "Secrets" is a very strong track with a great atmosphere to it. Close your eyes and you'll feel like you're strolling through a ghost town with a jaded outlaw singing in your ear.

**Walker:** While "Speed of Life" was

a contender for sheer catchiness, the best track has got to be "Dancin' All Night" for its ability to make you sway. The lyrics are are charming if a bit simple, and it has a sound that differs from much of the album, making it a standout against the nine tracks that precede it.

**Advantage:** Bentall wins this hands down. Originality and style are key.

### Worst Track

**Bentall:** "Draft Dodger" is just plain dull and uninspired.

**Walker:** It's hard to pick a worst track on *Go* simply because they all sound so similar. So I'll give it to "I'm Gonna Make You Love Me" for the sheer stalkerish, Stockholm-syndrome creepiness of the lyrics.

**Advantage:** Let's be honest. There are no winners in this category.

### Verdict

These Canadian country acts battled it out, but does the crown go to Manitobans of Doc Walker or Vancouver boy Dustin Bentall? At times it feels like Dustin Bentall is rushing through his words, trying to squeeze them all into too small a section of music, but his lyrics do try to tell stories to match his atmospheric instrumentals. Doc Walker, on the other hand, seems to sound exactly like every other country band in the mainstream. So while both albums are cursed to feeling repetitive, this battle's champion has to be The Dustin Bentall Outfit for at least trying to do something different. Sometimes.

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## Bears drop opener to Canucks rookies



EVAN DAUM  
Sports Editor

In what was a close, hard-fought game, the Bears hockey squad found themselves on the wrong end of a 4-3 decision against the Vancouver Canucks rookies Wednesday night. The Bears came out fast and showed a lot of jump early on, notching the first goal of the game on the power play at 4:57 of the first period when Greg Gardner scored on the doorstep, giving the Bears the early 1-0 lead. The Canucks, who flew in from Vancouver Wednesday afternoon, caught up as the first period went on, and evened the score at 17:38 of the first when Kellan Tochkin scored from Mario Bliznak and Russian sniper Sergei Shirokov, who looks to have a chance to crack the Canucks' NHL roster this season.

The Canucks came out in the second with more jump, as Edmonton-native Kevin Connauton quickly gave the Canucks a two-goal lead with a pair less than a minute into the second period. Connauton was solid all night long from the back-end and showed his offensive upside jumping into the play frequently through out the course of the game.

The Bears cut the lead to one when Chad Klassen beat Canucks goalie James Reid top shelf on a great strip and feed from Brian Woolger. The game then settled down in the third as both teams traded goals with Tochkin scoring his second of the game before Alberta's Jesse Gimblett capped off the scoring at 7:28 of the third.

The game was a good early test for the Bears who dressed six new players, including Travis Yonkman, who got the start between the pipes. The game was a good test for Alberta to start the

season, and gave the coaching staff a starting point on what the team needs to improve on.

"We moved the puck early, we moved it quickly, and then we got a little bit complacent. Our D stopped moving their feet a little bit and over handled the puck a little bit, but overall I am happy with our effort," head coach Eric Thurston pointed out.

"We took a little bit of a lull I thought to start the second period and that really came back to bite us and we have to learn from that."

The Bears will look to eliminate that slow start to the second period as they build to the ultimate goal of every season — a berth at Nationals and the top prize of claiming the University Cup. The importance of tough non-conference tests is something Thurston knows will help show where his team is at.

"I think they really show us that we can't come out flat-footed. Those things really come back to bite you against good teams. We face that at Nationals. Against UNB, you come out flat-footed and they're going to make you pay. Even though we had a good first period, you've got to come out with that same mental focus and that same intensity to follow up. They re-focused in the second period, we came out a little too nonchalant."

Thurston spread the ice time around in all facets of the game, giving players a chance early on in the season to show what they could bring to the table.

"It would have been easy in a game like this to just pick specific guys out there for power play," Thurston explained. "I was focusing on getting as much ice time for everyday as I could, spread it out, and not have guys sitting too long."

TYLER HEAL

**PUCK HUNTING** Bears forward Eric Hunter (right) battles for the puck with Canucks rookie defender Mitch McCollm (left).

## Ice Bears ready for Oilers rookies

With lots to work on this early in the season, the Bears will have another test against a group headlined by sniper Jordan Eberle

EVAN DAUM  
Sports Editor

After a 4-3 loss to the Vancouver Canucks rookies, the Golden Bears hockey squad will now turn their attention to their annual tilt with the Edmonton Oilers rookies this Friday at Clare Drake Arena. The U of A has an all-time mark of 11-10 against the yearly crop of Oilers prospects, including a 3-2 loss in last year's edition of the game.

Bears head coach Eric Thurston knows his players will once again be excited for the opportunity to showcase their skills in front of some NHL eyes.

"They want to prove to the players, the opposition out on the ice, plus the people in the stands that they can play with these guys," said Thurston. "They take a lot of pride in their own ability and their skill level, but also the Golden Bear program, and being able to give a good game and prove to the scouts that they can play."

Thurston and the Bears will be facing off against a familiar face in former head coach Rob Daum, who will be in the unfamiliar position of being on the visitors' bench at Clare Drake guiding the Oilers rookies. Daum, who will be

entering his first full year as head coach of the Oilers' AHL affiliate in Springfield this season, will be on the other side of a game in which he guided Alberta for 10 seasons.

**"They want to prove to the players, the opposition out on the ice, plus the people in the stands that they can play with these guys."**

ERIC THURSTON  
BEARS HOCKEY HEAD COACH

The game will be another good test for the Bears in preparation for the start of the Canada West regular season and, as always, will bring the best out of the Oilers team as well.

"Their speed, their skill level, and determination for trying to make the Oilers and get a contract is really good, and there's always been a very good crowd that comes in. In part, it's an Oilers crowd that comes to get really

entertained in what's a very good game," Thurston pointed out.

Knowing little about the opposition, as is the case almost every year when these two teams face off, is a blessing for the Golden Bears and the coaching staff. The yearly affair helps the team get prepared in a manner similar to when the Bears have travelled to Nationals in the past.

"I like it a little bit because you're not able to get as much information at Nationals scouting teams and getting information, so you really have to look at playing your upbeat style and tempo and play your game — make the adjustments as you can with the team that you're playing against," Thurston explained.

Canadian World Junior hero Jordan Eberle will once again be wearing the Oil drop this season after suiting up in last year's tilt. On the Bears' side, expect Real Cyr to get the start after Travis Yonkman played in net against the Canucks rookies.

Another chapter will be added to this great rivalry, as both the Bears and the Oilers take to the ice at 7 p.m. Friday in what's always a spirited affair within the cozy confines of Clare Drake.



PETE YEE

**BOARD MEETING** Head coach Eric Thurston has another strong team in 2009.

## PLAYER SPOTLIGHT



New Bears netminder Travis Yonkman will figure heavily this year for the Green and Gold and will team up with returning netminder Real Cyr manning the Bears' net. Yonkman put up a career year with the Swift Current Broncos of the Western Hockey League (WHL) in 2007/2008 with a record of 31-19-6, a .909 save percentage and a 2.67 GAA.





FILE PHOTO: BRENNAN MURPHY

**KICKING IT OFF** The Bears will open the season at home against two top-ten teams when UBC and TWU roll into town.

## B.C. soccer powerhouses roll into town for Bears opener

EVAN DAUM  
Sports Editor

The Bears soccer team has the difficult task of opening the season against two of the country's best, as they'll face the number-eight ranked UBC Thunderbirds and number-two ranked TWU Spartans this weekend at Foote Field.

The youthful Alberta squad will have the tall order of dealing with two veteran teams, something Bears head coach Len Vickery knows will test his young, but talented team.

"There's no question the quality of our first-, second-, and third-years. We're going to lack a little bit of experience as compared to UBC, TWU, and Victoria, who are totally intact from last year. That's one of the major hurdles we'll have to overcome — the lack of senior players," Vickery explained.

"I think people will be very impressed with the quality of our incoming players, the strength of the squad albeit without the senior content."

UBC's veteran makeup will pose a

stiff test right off the bat for the Bears, as the Green and Gold went 0-2-1 against the T-Birds last season. The game will serve as a good measuring stick for a team that's been together as a whole unit for a very short time, as players wrapped up their senior provincials last weekend.

"Right away it's going to be an extremely competitive game. UBC as well as ourselves have always been in the mix in terms of qualifying for playoffs and competing for Canada West and for that matter going onto national championships."

UBC was an extremely strong team defensively as they allowed a miniscule 0.50 goals per game — tops in the conference. The T-birds also lead the league in shutouts as keeper Srdjan Djekanovic put zeroes on the board for the opposition ten times last season, but has moved on after graduating. The T-Birds will have returning defenders Graham Smith, Joey Loreth, Jason Gill, and Matthew Allard, who will be tough to beat

again this season.

One of the Bears who will be looked to for some offence against the stingy T-Birds will be Brett Colvin.

"He's shown he can score at this level. We've got to get other players up in support with him to get the goals, and because these other teams have noted marksmen as well, we've got to be defensively organized and strong in order to shut down the opposition."

One of those marksmen Alberta will have to beware of is TWU's Daniel Lowen, who was tied for second in conference goal scoring last season with seven goals.

The Bears played the CIS runners-up from last season tight in two matches in 2008, earning a 2-2 draw and a hard fought 2-1 loss against the Spartans.

Alberta looks to make an early statement against the perennial playoff teams this weekend kicking off the regular season Saturday against UBC and then taking on TWU Sunday, with both games going at 2:15 p.m. at Foote Field.

### BEARS SOCCER

SATURDAY, SEPT. 12

FOOTE FIELD - 2:15 p.m.



VS.



SUNDAY, SEPT. 13

FOOTE FIELD - 2:15 p.m.



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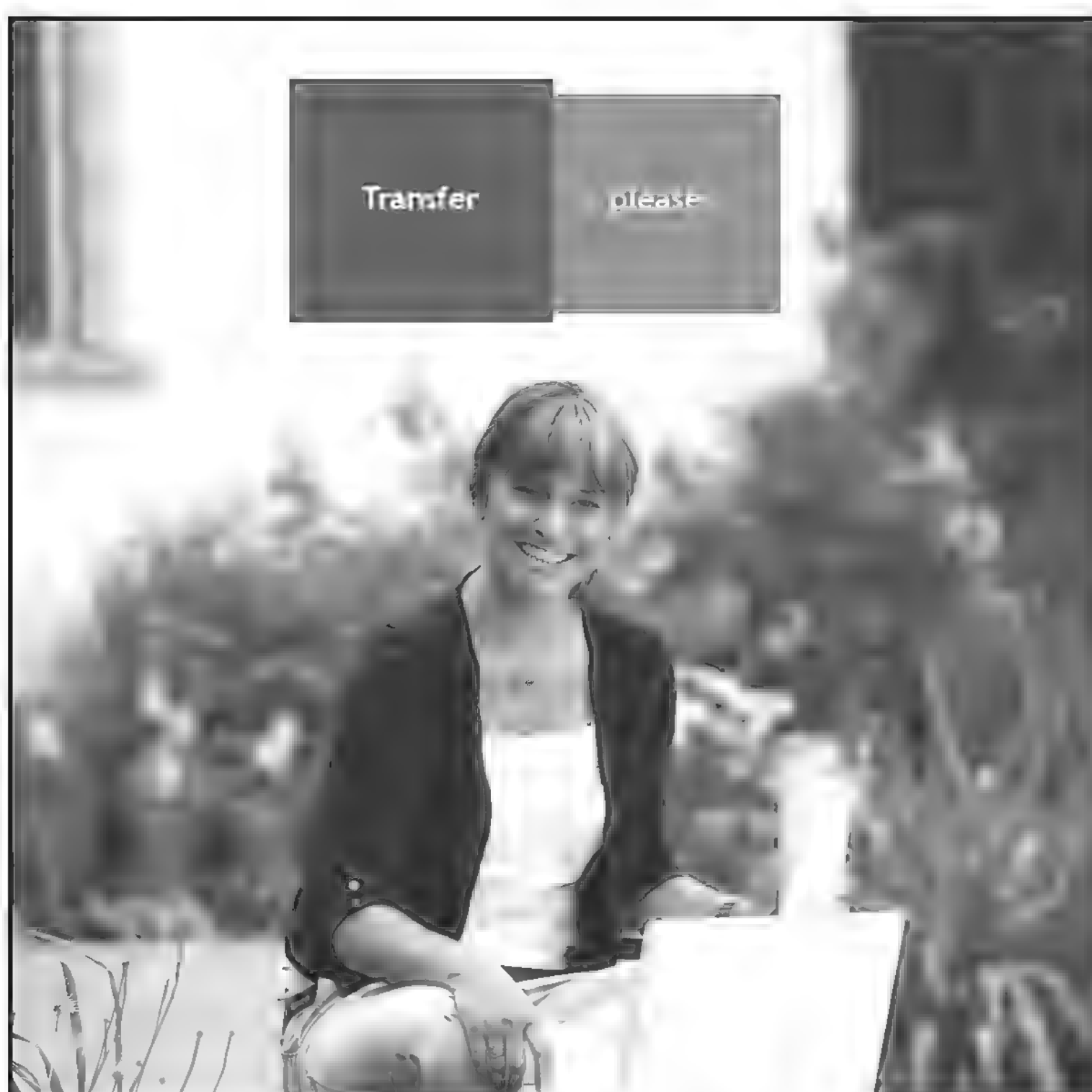
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## Tiger Woods has lost his mystique

After falling to little-known Y.E. Yang at the PGA Championship, Tiger looks as though he is beatable when leading at a major



JOHN  
KEOHANE

Sports  
Commentary

When Y.E. Yang, a little-known golfer from South Korea, tapped in on the 72nd hole at Hazeltine National golf course on Sunday, August 16, he accomplished more than simply snagging his first major championship; he altered history — forever tainting one of the most remarkable records in sport.

Until that fateful fall afternoon, there had been three guarantees in life: death, taxes, and a Tiger Woods victory when he held at least a share of the 54-hole lead in a major. Woods had been a force of nature: a constant, like gravity, that could not be overcome; an inexorable, red-clad tidal wave, sweeping away lesser mortals.

In his prior 14 attempts, Tiger had never relinquished the Sunday lead in a major. In spite of his myriad of other shortcomings — petulant on-course behavior; a bland, if ubiquitous, public persona; his inability to overcome a deficit after 54-holes in a major; and his recent failure to make the cut at the British Open — his unblemished record as a closer had, in large part,

fed into the myth of Tiger Woods. He on Sunday used to be untouchable on a Sunday, a Titan among mere men, immune to the tremendous pressures that choked off his competitors.

It was this flawless record, above any other factors, that had contributed the most to Tiger's prestigious position atop the world sporting pantheon. Federer has his foils — repeated losses to Rafael Nadal, an effeminate disposition, even a propensity to break into tears. Likewise, Lebron has Kobe and, more importantly, has yet to secure an NBA title. Tiger, alone among the global sporting superstars, had resisted a fall from sporting grace and he alone had remained invulnerable to athletic mortality.

Within the golfing world, players and commentators alike would heap effusive praise on Woods, awed at his seeming Sunday invincibility. When Tiger had seized control of the weekend lead, victory was more than just a foregone conclusion: it was an elemental certainty, a mere formality. Y.E. Yang ruptured this Sunday covenant, and in so doing, robbed the sporting world of its last immaculate icon.

The man we saw on the closing nine of the PGA Championship was a human Tiger, a flawed Tiger, a trampled Tiger. His putting stroke began to fail him; his driver, never his most trusty tool, became downright combustible; his fiery gaze — in the past, so often transfixed directly on the

flagstick — began to wander, seemingly searching for answers to this cosmic injustice. By the time a clearly defeated Woods reached the 72nd green, he was unable even to muster the determination to hole his final, inconsequential putt.

All this is not to say that Tiger's run of dominance has reached its conclusion. Woods is still far and away the best player on tour, and will, barring some unforeseen catastrophe, be the heavy favourite to capture his sixth green jacket at the Masters in early April. He will continue to command headlines, generate massive revenues, and act as the omnipresent ambassador of the sport. In fact, in many ways he may become more accessible to fans whom have now seen him falter. No, Tiger Woods has not lost his perch atop the golfing world, not by any stretch of the imagination.

Yet, in those momentous final hours of a late summer evening, the sporting world was given a glimpse at something it had not yet seen. A player who had come to signify determination, perseverance, and serenity under fire wavered. A man who had risen above his peers to stare eye to eye with the legends of sport stumbled and, for a moment, came crashing down to earth.

Until Sunday, August 16, the name Tiger Woods had been synonymous with perfection. Thanks to a plucky little man from South Korea, it is now merely equivalent to greatness.



The Washington Nationals continue to look like a team of little leaguers, garnering attention from fans only thanks to mascot presidents of yesteryear running around foolishly.

At the Gateway, we don't need mascots to get you to come to our sports meetings every Thursday at 4 p.m. in 3-04 SUB (but it wouldn't hurt to have one).

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## Bears football head to Calgary looking to beat southern rivals

EVAN DAUM  
Sports Editor

After suffering a 25-24 loss at the hands of the UBC Thunderbirds last weekend, the Bears football team will travel south down the QE2 this Saturday to take on the fifth-ranked Calgary Dinos at McMahon Stadium in the Stampede city.

Alberta was unable to hold onto a 24-6 halftime lead against the T-Birds as they came storming back to shock the hometown crowd and leave the Bears with an 0-1 start to the season.

The team struggled to stop UBC running back Dave Boyd, who racked up over 200 yards rushing. Alberta will have their hands full again this weekend with Calgary's Matt Walter, who lead the Canada West last season with 904 rushing yards.

The Bears had a successful game of their own on the ground against UBC in their season opener as senior running back Tendayi Jozzy rushed for 122 yards and catapulted himself into fifth-place all-time on the Bears rushing list.

Alberta and Calgary split the season

series last year as the Bears managed to beat the eventual conference champions in the final regular season game at Foote Field by a score of 20-9.

The meeting will be the first of two against the Dinos this season as the Bears look to keep pace in the competitive Canada West. Calgary will also be looking for their first win of the season after dropping their opener to Saskatchewan in overtime at Griffiths Stadium in Saskatoon.

The game gets underway at 1 p.m. and can be heard online at [www.bears.ualberta.ca](http://www.bears.ualberta.ca).





PETE YEE

**SOCCER SHUFFLE** The Pandas will be up against two tough B.C. teams this weekend as they look to start the season right.

# Pandas soccer ready to take on pair of CIS top-ten teams

**PANDAS SOCCER**

SATURDAY, SEPT. 12

FOOTE FIELD - 12 p.m.



PANDAS

VS.



UBC THUNDERBIRDS

SUNDAY, SEPT. 13

FOOTE FIELD - 12 p.m.



PANDAS

VS.



TWU SPARTANS

**EVAN DAUM**  
Sports Editor

The Pandas soccer team will have their hands full this weekend when they open their home schedule at Foote Field against the UBC Thunderbirds on Saturday and the Trinity Western Spartans on Sunday.

The Pandas will take to the pitch with a game against the number eight ranked T-Birds. Alberta will have to solve a UBC defence that surrendered a league-best six goals in conference play. The T-Birds are led defensively by an outstanding backline headlined by Jessica Briker and Chelsea Stang, who represented Canada at this summer's Universiade in Belgrade, Serbia.

"They have just a fantastic back-line. I've seen them play internationally, I've seen them play in Canada West. Defence has been their key to success in the past season giving up very few goals. That's where we're going to have to make a difference," Pandas head coach Liz Jepsen pointed out.

The Pandas' offensive game will have to be sharp against UBC, as the team went scoreless in their two meetings last season against the T-Birds.

"We're going to have to be prepared to have a top-level game right off the bat with them," Jepsen said. "We cannot be complacent and really push their back-line and capitalize on anything they give us. It's going to be about beating the back-line and it's not going to be an easy back-line to beat."

The tough task of opening against UBC is followed up Sunday with the even greater challenge of facing the number-one ranked team in the nation; reigning CIS champion TWU Spartans.

"They've got that championship from last year in their repertoire and they've duly earned it. Now it's our responsibility to create a team that can do the same thing and who better than the current reigning champions."

The Spartans have super sophomore Nicki Wright to lean on offensively. Wright put up incredible numbers last season with 12 goals and six assists, leading the league in goals and points, earning her both Rookie of the Year and MVP honours last season in the Canada West.

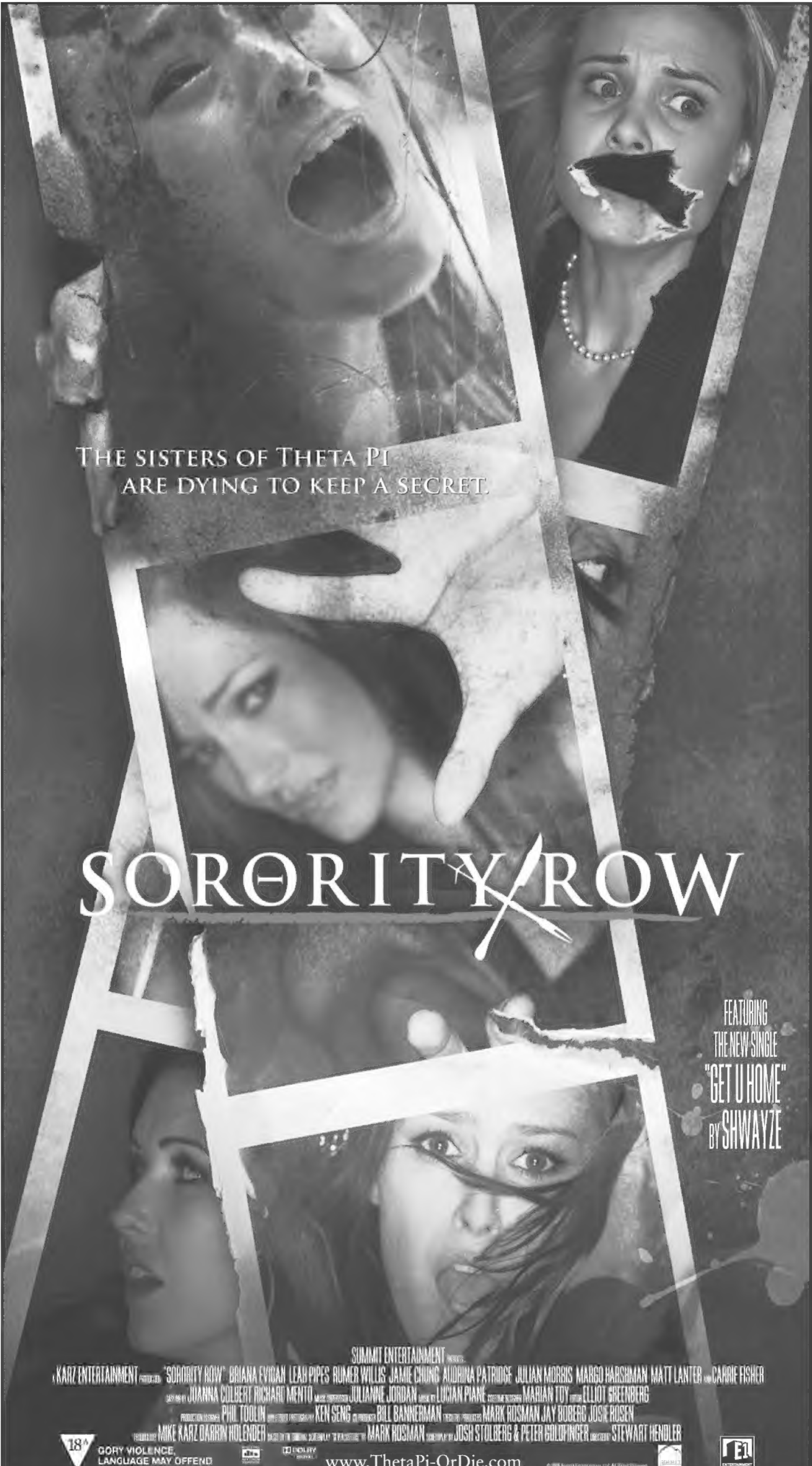
Keshia Wallin will be given the difficult task of slowing Wright down for Alberta. The Pandas, who return nine of 11 starters from last season, look to be a team that can do some damage in Canada West this season, and that push to become an elite team starts against two of the conference's best this weekend.

"In order to win you have to be able to play and beat the best teams, the highest ranked teams — the top teams in your conference and in the country. We'll look at it as an opportunity coming up against them right off the bat and use everything as a measuring stick."

Jepsen and the Pandas will be looking to alert the conference, and the CIS that they can play with the very best.

"The thrill of competition is very important and, right from day one, this is a competitive team and they're going to have to get on the field, stay focused, and show what they've got. In doing that there is the opportunity to send the message to everyone in the league of exactly where we sit," Jepsen said.

The Pandas take to the Foote Field pitch both Saturday and Sunday starting at noon.



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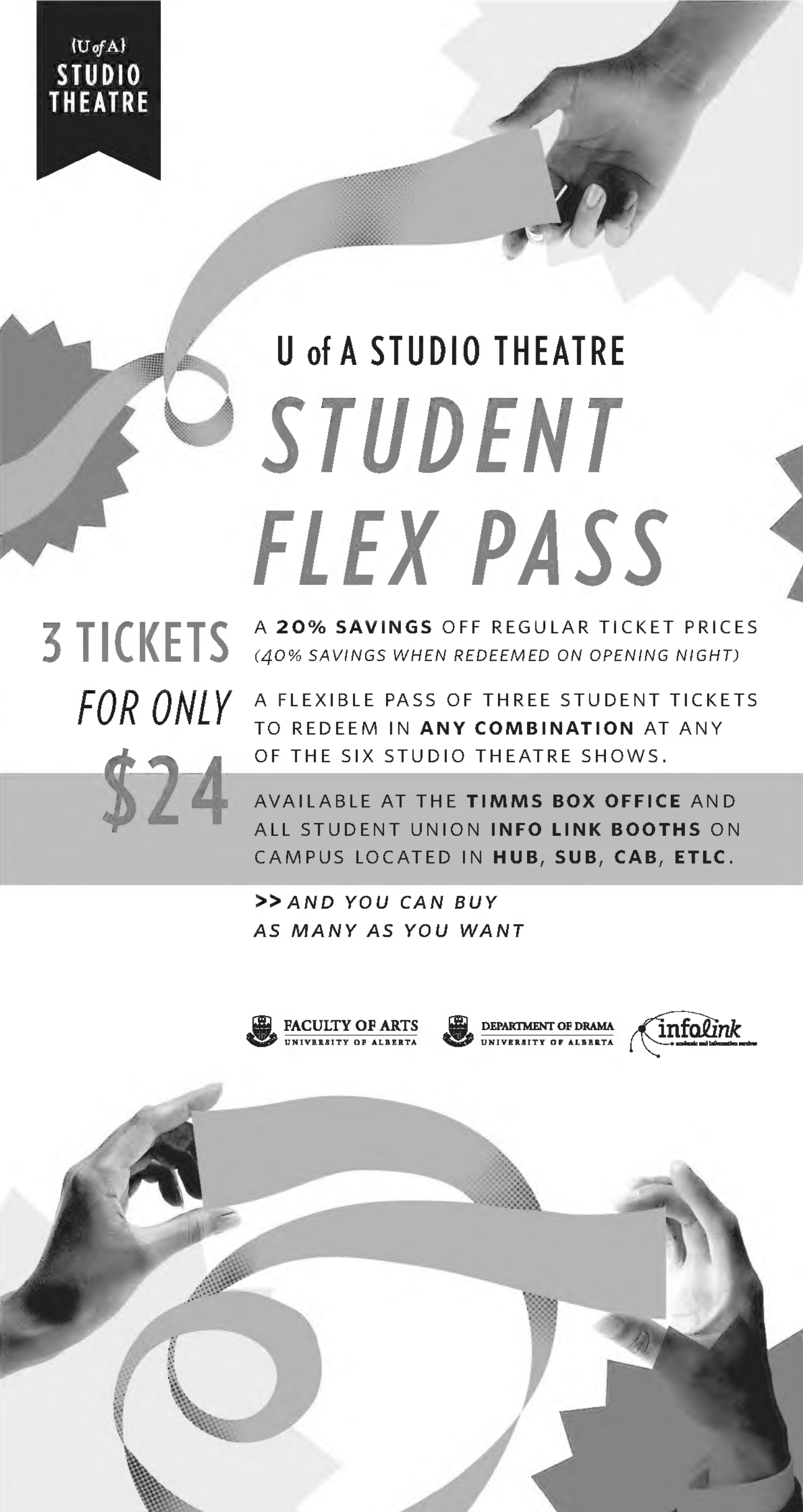
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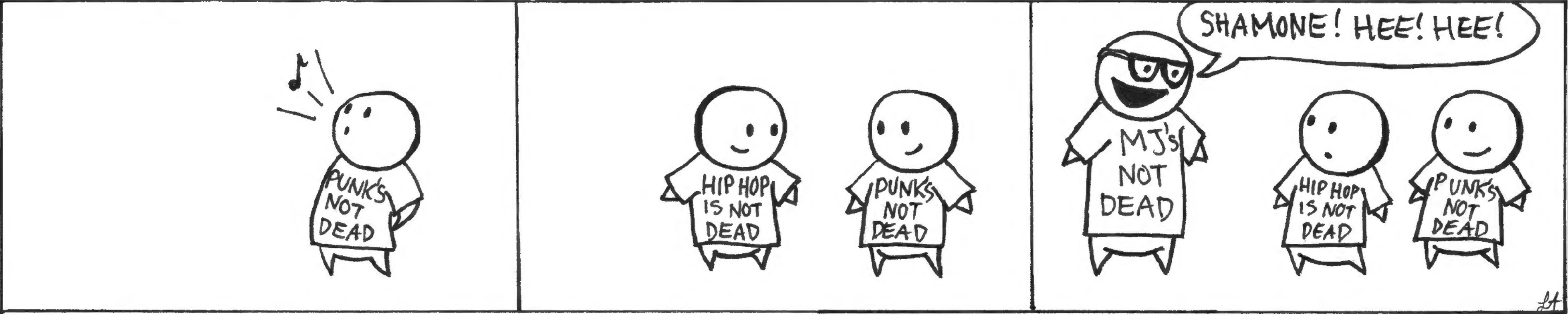


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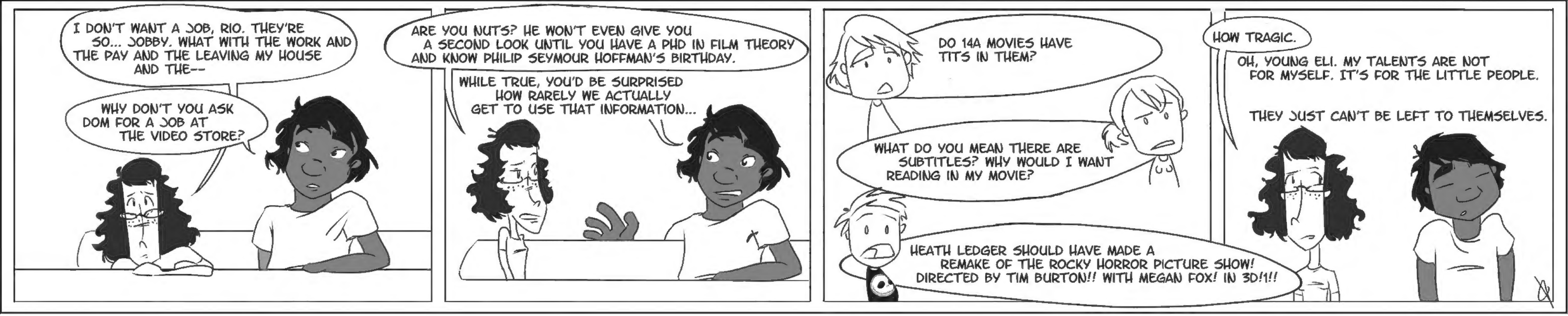
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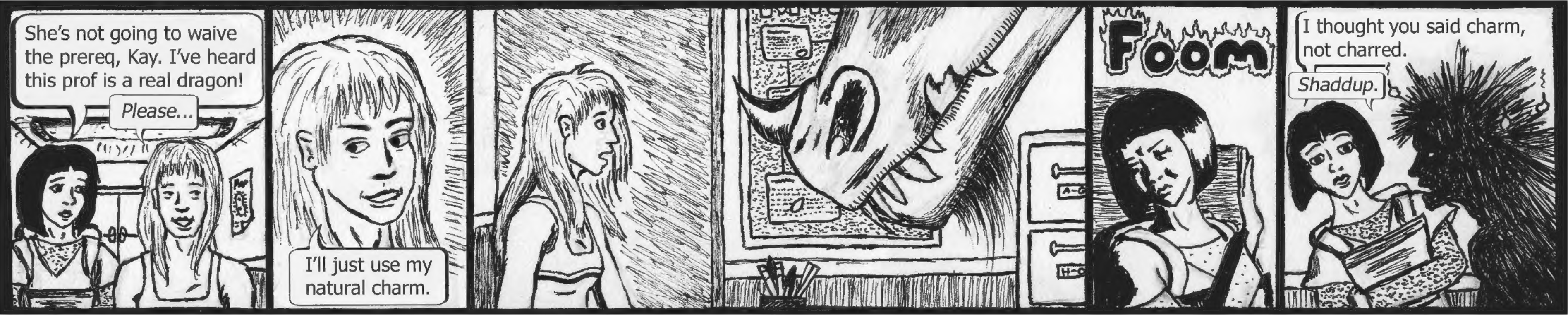
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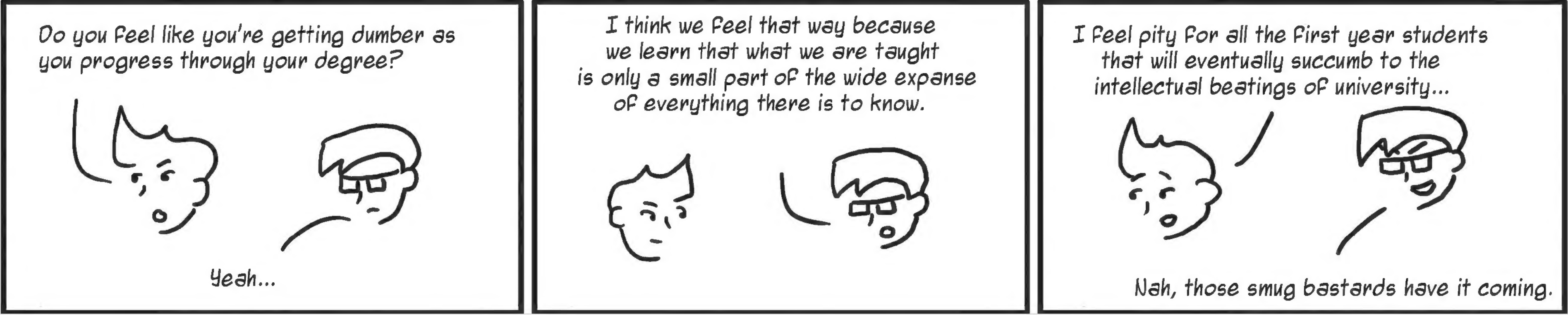
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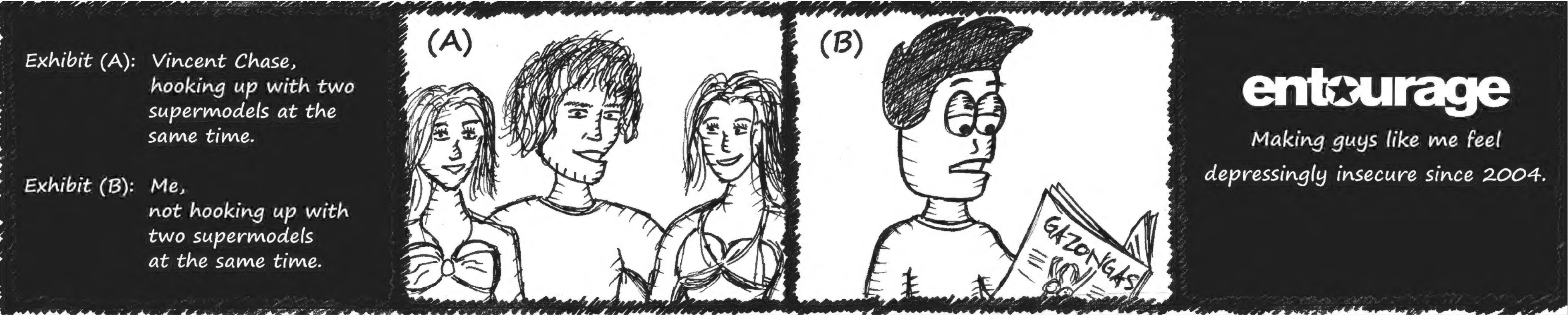
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DREAM A LITTLE DREAM OF ME

Some of you may be too young to remember, but Sega — the guys who turned a once-cool hedgehog into an embarrassing farce called a “werehog” — once made hardware, too. 10 years ago yesterday, the world was given a gift called the Dreamcast. This humble little white box, which brought joy into the hearts of gamers everywhere, lead the charge in taking the console gaming industry into a new era, and was the home of countless unforgettable arcade classics and experimental titles. While its maker may now exist as a mere shadow of its former self, the Dreamcast lives on in the memories of those like me who bought it on launch and have loved it since. Here’s to you, Dreamcast. Keep on thinkin’.



astronowatch

by Kati Kovacs

Welcome back to campus, everyone! You all look so fresh and happy that I can’t even curse you all for lengthening the Tim Hortons lineup by a million. Well, maybe I curse you a little. Jerks.

I hope everyone’s summer was fantastic. Mine was busy, and filled with the following things: motorcycle rides, accidental drunks (oops!), wedding plans and the best and nerdiest cabin party ever. A keg and star gazing — it was a match made in heaven.

The campus observatory is now open for business! No kegs, though.

The FABservatory is located at the top of the Fine Arts Building. In September we’ll be open from 9-10 p.m. every Thursday. For updates on what’s visible in the night sky in Edmonton, please join the FABservatory Facebook group. It’s the nerdiest one on Facebook, except maybe for the Gateway editors’ alumni group. Ha-ha!

AstronoWatch is a weekly feature that covers the goings-on in the night skies, the galaxy, and sometimes even Kati’s personal life. Keep up with Astronowatch online at [thegatewayonline.ca/astronowatch](http://thegatewayonline.ca/astronowatch) or check out the FABservatory’s site at [www.phys.ualberta.ca/observatory](http://www.phys.ualberta.ca/observatory)

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